

THE STATUS OF
WOMEN
in
**SOUTHWEST
FLORIDA**



A Report Commissioned by

The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida

womensfundflorida.org

Prepared by

Regional Economic Research Institute

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TheWomen'sFund
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



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Letter of Introduction

Several Southwest Florida women formed an exploratory group in 2011 to discuss and investigate ways to support women and girls. With counsel from the Women's Funding Network and inspiration from WomenMovingMillions, The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida launched in 2012. The mission of The Women's Fund is to improve the lives of women and girls in Southwest Florida by:

- **Conducting Research**
Learning what issues affect women and girls in Southwest Florida
- **Raising Money**
Developing relationships with individuals and businesses to secure donations
- **Awarding Strategic Grants**
Identifying and funding programs and organizations that address the special, critical needs of Southwest Florida women and girls

The first order of business for The Women's Fund was to commission research through Florida Gulf Coast University's Regional Economic Research Institute to determine the status of women and girls in Southwest Florida. The research will be shared publicly and will guide The Women's Fund in establishing programs and directing its funds.

We are grateful for financial support from the Southwest Florida Community Foundation and Naples Daily News to partially underwrite this first-ever regional research project on the status of women.

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Preface

This study, sponsored by The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida, examines the current status of women in the five-county region of Southwest Florida. The intention of this study is to provide a wealth of insight and to raise questions regarding issues of importance to the women in this area. Conducted between November 2011 and September 2012, this study examines four core areas:

- Population and Diversity
- Employment and Income
- Achievement and Autonomy
- Health and Well-Being

Each core area serves as a foundation of knowledge to assist local agencies, groups, and policymakers in understanding the complex and often overlooked status of women. Additionally, this study aims to highlight issues facing local women as a platform for future research. Such research is important and beneficial for the region in providing solutions and opportunities for policy updates that further enhance the local socioeconomic environment.

The study team thanks the leadership team of The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida for its support in completing this important study. This study would not have been possible without the assistance of Dr. Arthur Rubens, Denice Copeland, Jilian Simon-Bower, Kristopher Jones, and Luciano Torres.



Dr. Gary Jackson
Director
Regional Economic Research Institute
Florida Gulf Coast University
Lutgert College of Business
August 1, 2012

Research Team

The **Regional Economic Research Institute (RERI)** is part of the Center for Leadership and Innovation within the Lutgert College of Business at Florida Gulf Coast University. The Institute assists individuals, organizations, and businesses by conducting economic research with the goal of making more informed decisions concerning regional tradeoffs, policy issues, and impacts on growth.



Dr. Gary Jackson (Project Director) is the director of the Regional Economic Research Institute (RERI) at Florida Gulf Coast University. Dr. Jackson's specialty area is economic analysis. Throughout his career he has conducted extensive research and evaluation of numerous industries and organizations. Dr. Jackson earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Massachusetts and is an Assistant Professor of Economics. He has over 23 years experience with the Tennessee Valley Authority. His broad range of capacities included market analysis and policy, economic forecasting, energy policy, trading options, and planning and strategic development.

Dr. Arthur Rubens (Project Co-Director) is Professor of Management at Lutgert College of Business, Associate Director of RERI, and former Director of Sponsored Projects and Programs at the Center for Leadership and Innovation. Dr. Rubens has over 25 years experience as an educator, administrator, and consultant having worked with both public and private organizations. Dr. Rubens is experienced in qualitative and quantitative research methods, strategic planning, and quality improvement techniques and practices.

FGCU Student Research Analyst Team

Denice Copeland recently graduated from FGCU with a B.S. in Finance and Economics and is fluent in English, Spanish and Portuguese. In addition to working for the Institute, she is pursuing her Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) designation. Denice has begun work as a financial analyst with a leading international small-cap research company.

Jilian Simon-Bower is a senior at FGCU majoring in Accounting. She plans to graduate in Spring 2013 and intends to receive her Master's and Ph.D. in Accounting. She wishes to pursue her Certified Public Accountant (CPA) license and pursue a business career in the music industry.

Kristopher Jones is a recent graduate of FGCU's B.S. program with a major in Finance. In addition to working on this project, he has been pursuing his CFA designation and is seeking research and analyst positions in the financial services industry. His other interests include technology and graphic design.

Luciano Torres is a senior at FGCU with a major in Finance and a minor in Economics. He plans to graduate in Fall 2012 and will complete his CFA designation. Upon graduation he will seek employment with the investment banking industry before pursuing his master's in finance.

Executive Summary

The Status of Women in Southwest Florida is the first comprehensive study of women and girls that brings together a wide range of information sources, including the recently-released 2010 U.S. Census. The focus of this study is to present a clearer picture of the status of women and girls in Southwest Florida.

This study was conducted in response to a request from The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida. This study began in November 2011 and was completed in September 2012.

This study presents a comprehensive demographic, income, achievement, and health profile of women and girls in Southwest Florida. The report analyses include the five-county region of Southwest Florida (Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties). This study is principally patterned on the report: *The Status of Women in Central Ohio* completed in 2004 by The Women's Fund of Central Ohio and the Columbus Foundation. FGCU's Regional Economic Research Institute (RERI) and a team of student research assistants completed this study. Retrospective data retrieval and analysis were collected from a large range of data sources including, but not limited to, the 2010 U.S. Census.

The report is divided into four main sections or areas of research:

- **Population and Diversity:** The first section includes an extensive review of varied data sources and information on demographics in Southwest Florida, including the 2010 Census and American Community Survey. Major areas include population by county, racial and ethnic diversity, age, marital and family status, living location (urban or rural), and veteran status.
- **Employment and Income:** The second section includes an extensive review of regional employment data focusing on occupations, labor force participation, unemployment, earnings and wages, retirement, poverty, public assistance, and child care and support.
- **Achievement and Autonomy:** The third section examines various data sources that evaluate educational attainment, literacy rates, political participation, homeownership, and leadership in business and politics.
- **Health and Well-Being:** The final section provides a comprehensive review of health and wellness data sources for women and girls. Examined were such conditions as death rates, causes of disease, and infectious diseases (STIs and HIV/AIDS). Additionally, mental health, wellness activities, reproductive health, disability, access to care, and violence and crime against women and girls were analyzed.

This report identifies areas for further research by pinpointing gaps or missing information. Such limitations can be found under the heading "More to Learn" in each section of the report.

The RERI principal investigators reviewed existing studies and available data sources to develop the research plan for this sponsored study. The student research analyst team (four upper-level students) assisted with data collection and the development of this report; their contribution earned them valuable experience in the field of research analysis and reporting.

Throughout the study, data was collected and entered into summary reports; gaps (More to Learn), positive attributes (encouraging characteristics or measures), and opportunities for change (potential improvement) were identified. These are listed at the end of each section of the report and in the executive summary.

Upon completion of data collection and analysis, a summary of the four main sections of data and a set of proposed recommendations were developed, which are included in the executive summary. However, the reader is encouraged to review each individual section of the report for a complete overview of the current role and status of women and girls in Southwest Florida.

Population and Diversity

In Southwest Florida, women and girls account for over half the population. The 2010 U.S. Census identifies 583,779 women and girls living in Southwest Florida comprising 50.7% of the region's population. The region studied includes Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties.

This section of the report provides information on the population and diversity of women and girls in Southwest Florida. It provides an important foundation and context for the data presented in the other sections of the report. The topics discussed in this section include:

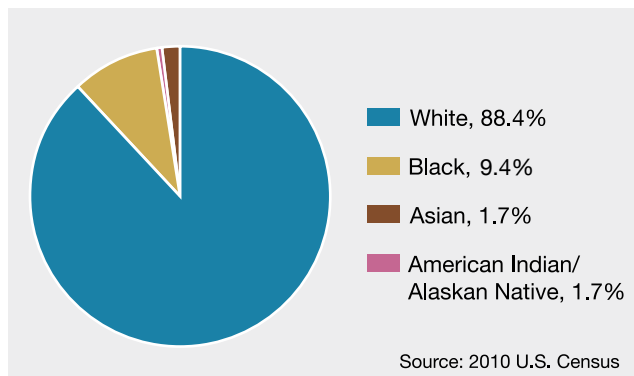
- Populations by county
- Racial and ethnic diversity
- Age of population
- Marital and family status
- Urban and rural households
- Veteran status

The 2010 U.S. Census shows the total population for Southwest Florida to be 1,152,276 with the portion of women and girls totaling 583,779. The coastal counties of Charlotte, Collier, and Lee show a slightly higher percentage of women than men ranging from 50.7% to 51.4%, whereas the inland counties of Glades and Hendry have a higher percentage of men than women. Glades County's population is 57.8% men and Hendry County's is 54.2% men.



Approximately one in ten females in Southwest Florida is a member of a minority group. White females make up 88.4% of the female population in Southwest Florida. Black females account for 9.4% of the female population, American Indian females account for 0.5% of the female population, and Asian females make up 1.7% of the female population. Hispanic females make up 18.4% of all females in Southwest Florida. Hendry County is the most racially-diverse county with 13.9% of the popula-

Race of Southwest Florida Women



tion classified as minority. The least diverse county is Charlotte with 6.6% of the population classified as minority.

Southwest Florida has 94,713 foreign-born females who account for 16.5% of the female population. Approximately 68% or 64,249 are from Latin America. There are 16,864 foreign-born females from Europe; they account for 17.8% of the foreign-born female population, and 7,141 or 7.5% of this population are from Asia. Approximately 40% of the foreign-born female populations have become United States citizens, recognized as naturalized citizens.

The White female population is 411,544 or 35.7% of the Southwest Florida population. The Black female population is 43,812 or 3.8% of the Southwest Florida population. The female American Indian population is 4,949 or 0.4%, and the female Asian population is 8,020 or 0.7% of the area's population.

The median age for women in Florida is 42.1 years old while the median age for men is 39.4 years old. Charlotte County has the highest median age for women at 56.9 years old, while Hendry County has the lowest median age for women at 33.5 years old. Lee County has a median age for women of 46.9, somewhat higher than the median for Florida. Hispanic women have the lowest median age in Florida at 35.1 years old. Glades and Hendry Counties show the median age for Hispanic women to be 24.4 and 24.7 years old, respectively.

Women are living longer than men resulting in 13,598 more women than men over 65 years of age in Southwest Florida. There are 152,756 women over 65 years old living in the region. For women over age 85, that number is 19,762, compared with 13,776 for men over age 85 living in the region.

One out of every five women and girls in Southwest Florida is under 18 years old. Females under the age of 18 account for 48.8% of the under-18 population

in Southwest Florida. There are some differences by county: Females ages 18 and under make up 29.4% of the total population in Hendry County compared to only 18.3% for Southwest Florida.

Married women account for 54.7% of the female population in Southwest Florida. Hendry County has the lowest percentage of married females at 47.9% and Charlotte County has the highest with 57.6%. In the five-county region, 18.5% of women have never been married and 12.1% of the women are divorced. Three times as many Southwest Florida women as men are widowed.

Married-couple families represent 46.6% of all Southwest Florida households. Female householders with no husband present comprise 9.6% of all households with approximately half of those households containing children under 18 years of age. Unmarried-partner households account for 7.1% of the total households in Southwest Florida.

This study utilized 2000 Census data regarding the urban population statistics since relevant 2010 data has yet to be released. Most of the Southwest Florida population, 87.4%, lives in urban areas. Only 26.4% of the population in Glades County lives in an urban area, while 63.7% of Hendry County's population lives in an urban area. The coastal counties of Charlotte, Collier, and Lee Counties have between 88.5% and 90.6% of their populations living in an urban area. These trends are unlikely to change drastically due to Southwest Florida's large agricultural foundation. Therefore, it is safe to assume that the 2010 Urban and Rural Census data, which is scheduled for release in September of 2012, will be consistent with the 2000 data.

Southwest Florida has 4,186 female veterans and 46,057 male veterans living in the five-county area.

Employment and Income

This section of the report examines data on the employment status and income for women and girls in Southwest Florida. Employment and income have a great impact on both the status and autonomy of women. The information provided in this section assesses important factors in female employment and the difference gender makes in Southwest Florida's labor force. The topics discussed in this section include:

- Occupations and employment status
 - Labor force participation
 - Unemployment
 - Occupations
 - Industries and class of workers
- Earnings and wages
- Retirement
- Poverty
- Public assistance
- Child care and support

The great recession and recovery has spanned a significant number of years from the initial slowdown of the local economy in 2006 to the gradual recovery in 2012. The recovery is expected to continue until 2015 with continued high unemployment rates in the Southwest Florida region. The recession and recovery duration has been long due to the difficulties associated with the housing bubble and financial crisis. Consumer confidence has improved, but consumers and businesses remain cautious and hiring remains below long-term trends. Employment opportunities have been limited and unemployment rates remain high in the five-county area.

Unemployment rates for women are high but generally below those of men. The 2010 American Community Survey shows the unemployment rate for women in Lee County to be 11.5%, below the unemployment rate of 13.5% for men. Collier County's unemployment rate for women is 10.6% and is



12.5% for men. This difference is largely explained by the career choices that women and men generally tend to make. A larger number of men are employed in construction and construction-related industries that were hardest hit by the recession and have been slow to recover. Education and health services have increased employment from 2006 to 2010, and women hold a larger proportion of the positions in these industries.

Women have a 47.7% labor force participation rate compared with a 58.0% participation rate for men. Women and men are counted in the labor force participation rate only if they are employed or are actively looking for a position. Florida's labor force participation rate for women is 56.3% indicating that Southwest Florida has lower labor force participation rates for women than for men. The large number of retirees who have traditionally re-located to the region may provide an explanation for this lower level of labor force participation. Women in Hendry County have a substantially higher labor force participation rate of 55.9%. Black women have the highest labor force participation rate in Southwest Florida at 65.7%.

Over two-thirds of women in Southwest Florida are working in either management, professional, and related occupations, or in sales and office occupations. Women who hold occupations in construction, extraction, and maintenance account for less than 1% of the population. A larger percentage of women

are employed in management, professional, and related occupations at 32.0% of the working female population, compared to 25.4% for men. More women hold positions in the fields of management, business, science, and related occupations in Southwest Florida than men. Women hold 69,000 management, business, science and related occupations as compared to 64,000 for men. A larger percentage of men hold management positions in the fields of management, business, science, and related occupations with 45.3% of men in management occupations compared to 25.5% for women. A larger percentage of women hold office and administrative support positions compared to men in the field of sales and office occupations.

More women in Southwest Florida are employed in historically lower-paying occupations than men. A large percentage of women, 31.5%, in Southwest Florida work in education, health, and other social services industries, as compared with men at 8.4%. The rate of women working in the non-profit sector in Southwest Florida is three times the rate for men. Women are more likely to be part-time or seasonal workers. In Southwest Florida, 74.2% of women are part-time or seasonal employees, higher than 66.0% for men.

Annual earnings above \$50,000 are earned by 27.2% of men and only 15.3% of women. There are 34.8% of women who earn below \$14,999, compared to

24.8% of men. Lee County’s median annual earnings for women are only 82.4% of that earned by men. Collier County’s median annual earnings for women are 88.0% of that earned by men. Hendry County is unusual since the median earnings for women are 123.7% of that earned by men. Black women earn more than Black men in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, and Lee Counties. Hispanic women and men have some of the lowest median annual earnings. In Collier County, Hispanic women earn \$18,631 and Hispanic men earn \$21,347.

There are 17.7% of women in poverty, compared to 15.8% of men in Southwest Florida; this amounts to 103,440 women in poverty. Female-headed households (with no husband present) have a poverty rate of 29.8% slightly higher when compared to male-headed families with a poverty rate of 28.7%. Married couple households have a poverty rate of 6.2%. Female-headed households with children under 18 have a poverty rate of 39.8% and female-headed households with children under 5 have a poverty rate of 46.3%. Black households are more likely to be below the poverty level, with 58.2% in Glades County and 42.0% in Hendry County. Charlotte County has the lowest level of poverty for Black households at 14.8%. Lee and Collier Counties show Black poverty rates of 23.3% and 26.8%, respectively.

Over 300,000 households in Southwest Florida were shown to receive food stamps. These households include over 8,000 married-couple families, over 8,200 female-headed households with no husband present, and over 2,700 male-headed households with no wife present.

Women and Men Wage Gap

	Women	Men
Collier County	88¢	\$1
Charlotte County	79¢	\$1
Glades County	79¢	\$1
Hendry County	\$1.24	\$1
Lee County	82¢	\$1

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Achievement and Autonomy

The Achievement and Autonomy section examines information on the education, political participation, and access to resources for women and girls in Southwest Florida. The topics discussed in this section include:

- Educational attainment
- Literacy
- Political participation
- Homeownership
- Business ownership and leadership

In Southwest Florida, 13.2% of women lack a high school diploma and 5.0% of women have less than a ninth-grade education. Men were shown to have even higher numbers of individuals without a high school diploma at 17.9%. Both Glades and Hendry Counties have approximately 22% of women lacking a high school diploma.

Women with a bachelor's degree or higher account for 21.7% of the Southwest Florida female population, and men with a bachelor's degree or higher account for 24.4% of the male population. More women than men have associate's degrees in Southwest Florida but more men than women have bachelor's, graduate, and professional degrees. Southwest Florida has a lower percentage of bachelor's degree attainment than the State of Florida for women and men between 25 and 34 years of age. Women with a bachelor's degree account for 13.8% of the female population between 25 and 34 years, but the percentage for the State of Florida is much higher at 21.0%. Glades and Hendry Counties have very low bachelor's degree attainment for the 25 to 34 year age group with 4.7% and 3.6%, respectively. A large percentage of Black, American Indian, and Hispanic women fail to complete high school with rates of 29.1%, 28.4%, and 34.4%, respectively. The achievement of a bachelor's degree is only 12.0% for Black women compared with 37.2% for Asian women in Southwest Florida.



School enrollment for children 3 and 4 years of age is highest in Collier County with 58.1%, while Lee County's enrollment is at 45.5%. Glades County has enrollment of 30.2%.

Proficiency in reading and mathematics is provided by the Florida Department of Education for the fourth, eighth, and tenth grades and is shown in the body of the report. Fourth-grade reading proficiency for girls for the State of Florida is 74%, compared to 69% for Hendry County, 70% for Glades County, 73% for Collier County, 77% for Lee County, and 78% for Charlotte County. Fourth-grade mathematics proficiency for girls is 73% for the state, 68% for Collier County, 70% for Hendry County, 74% for Lee County, 75% for Glades County, and 79% for Charlotte County. Proficiency at the eighth and tenth grade level in reading and mathematics is lower. For tenth grade, the State of Florida has a female proficiency for reading of only 42%, and a female proficiency for mathematics of 72%. Glades County has the lowest female reading proficiency percentage of just 27%. Hendry County's reading proficiency percentage is 31%, Collier County's is 41%, and Lee County's is 42%, the same as the state level. Only Charlotte County has a female reading proficiency above the state level at 51%.

Mathematics proficiency percentages for girls in tenth grade are higher than reading proficiency scores. The state level for tenth grade girl's mathematics proficiency is 72%. Proficiency at the regional

level is 58% in Glades County, 68% in Hendry and Lee Counties, 70% in Collier County, and 79% in Charlotte County.

Between 20% and 25% of county commissioners and judges in Southwest Florida are women. In addition, there were four females holding State of Florida House seats, but there no females from Southwest Florida in the U.S. House or Senate. More men than women are likely to represent the State of Florida in the U.S. Congress. Congressional Districts 13, 14, 16, 23, and 25 are either entirely or partially located in the Southwest Florida area, however, women represent none of these districts. There are 25 congressional seats in the State of Florida, and in 2012 women filled only six of those seats.

Women have a higher voter registration percentage than men at 66.2% compared to only 60.7% for men. The lowest women voter registration is in Hendry County with 55.3%, and the highest is in Charlotte County with 75.1%.

Homeownership rates are 67.4% for the State of Florida and range from 69.2% in Hendry County to 79.7% in Charlotte County. Female-headed households with no husband present have a much lower homeownership rate of just 13.5% for the State of Florida. Female-headed households with no husband present have homeownership rates of 8.5% for Charlotte County to 15.2% for Hendry County. Applications for government home loans show that 65.0% are originated for White females, 59.4% for Black females, and 44.0% for American Indian females. Applications for conventional home loans show that 63.6% are originated for White females, 46.0% for Black females, and 13.3% for American Indian females.

Women-owned firms in Southwest Florida account for 26.0% of all firms or 31,245 companies, and the percentage of companies with women serving on the board of directors is 67% for Southwest Florida.

Health and Well-Being

This section of the report examines data on the health and well-being of women and girls in Southwest Florida. Physical and mental health has a great impact on women's daily lives in Southwest Florida counties. The topics discussed in this section include:

- Death rates and causes of death
- Sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS
- Mental health
- Wellness activities
- Reproductive health
- Disability
- Access to care and insurance
- Violence and crime



Women have a longer life expectancy than men. In each of the five-county areas, the number of deaths per 100,000 is higher for men than for women. Black women have higher death rates compared to White women in Southwest Florida. The highest death rates for women and men are in Glades and Hendry

Counties. The suicide rates for women are less than one-third of men in Southwest Florida. There were 38 suicides for women in 2010.

The major causes of death for Southwest Florida women in 2010 were shown to be from cancer (1,275), heart disease (1,214), chronic lower respiratory disease (385), and unintentional injuries (222). Women have lower numbers of deaths than men from each cause except for chronic lower respiratory diseases. Women have a lower incidence of cancer than men in Florida. Almost 800 Southwest Florida women were found to have breast cancer from 2004 to 2008. Black women have a lower incidence of breast cancer than White women.

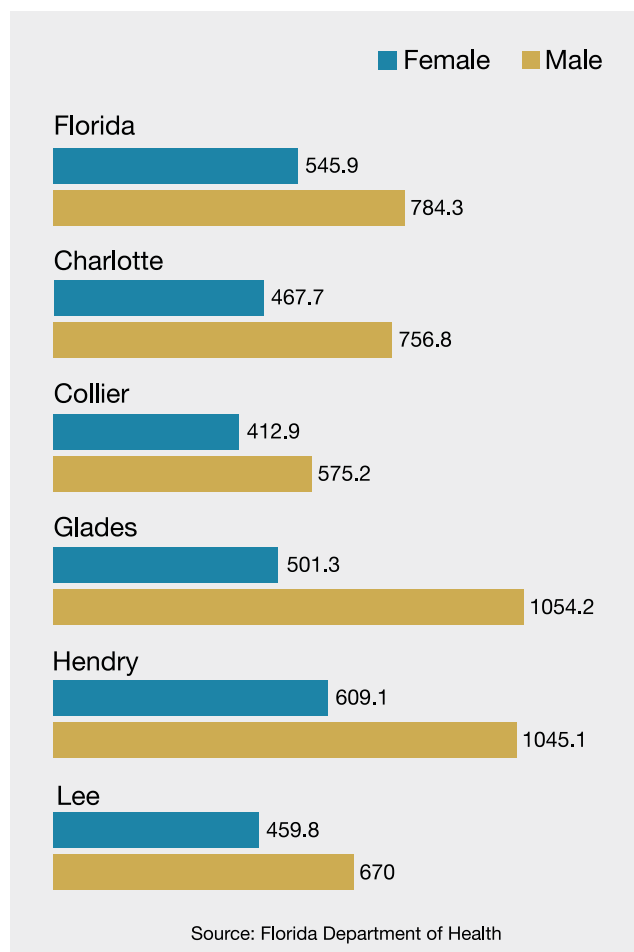
Women in Southwest Florida have a higher rate of hypertension than men. Hypertension is highest among women in Glades and Hendry Counties. Diabetes impacts 9.2% of women in Florida

compared to 11.7% of men. Women have higher rates of sexually-transmitted infections. There were 2,211 cases of chlamydia and 299 cases of gonorrhea reported for women in Southwest Florida in 2010, and in 2011, over 700 women were reported to have AIDS.

A slightly higher percentage of females than males were shown to utilize mental health and/or substance abuse services from 2001 to 2008. The percentage of women using mental health and/or substance abuse services is between 1% and 2% per county except for Hendry County, where 3.5% utilize the services.

Girls are less likely to use illicit drugs, alcohol, and tobacco than boys with 32.0% of female youth having used illicit drugs and 48.1% having used alcohol. Tobacco use for female youth is approximately 27.4% in Southwest Florida, except for Glades and Hendry Counties where usage is 33.9% and 35.0%, respectively.

Female & Male Death Rates per 100,000



In Southwest Florida, the majority of women have timely mammograms and Pap smears; 73.7% of women over the age of 40 reported having a mammogram within the last two years, and 84.0% of women over age 18 reported having a Pap smear within the past three years. In Southwest Florida, 50.7% of women and 61.1% of men have been identified as obese or overweight. Most Southwest Florida counties report more than 40% of women with high cholesterol. Hendry County shows the lowest rate at 36.2%, whereas the highest rate is reported at 44.0% for Lee and Charlotte Counties.

Women in Southwest Florida had 11,351 children in 2010. The highest fertility rates were for Hispanic women. The average fertility rate for Southwest Florida was 9.6 births per 1,000 women in 2010. Over 300 births in Southwest Florida were to young women under age 18. Nearly one in three women in Southwest Florida do not receive prenatal care during their first trimester of pregnancy. Births to unmarried women account for nearly half of all births. Infant mortality in Southwest Florida is highest among Black infants.

In Florida, over half of all women are in need of contraceptive services and supplies, according to a study by the Alan Guttmacher Institute. There were 2,512 reported abortions in Lee County in 2008.

A large percentage of disabled women and girls have incomes below the poverty level. Lee County reported 1,544 girls between 5 and 15 years old with disabilities living below the poverty income level in 2007, while Charlotte County reported 702 girls and Collier County reported 602 girls.

In Southwest Florida, 22.6% of women and girls in Hendry County were eligible for Medicaid for the years 2008 to 2010. Lee and Charlotte Counties had approximately 13% eligible and Collier County had 11.0% eligible. A much higher percentage of girls up to 17 years old were eligible for Medicaid. Charlotte County had 32.4% of the girls eligible, Lee County had 31.6%, Hendry County had 46.8%, and Collier County had 28.3%.

There were 5,785 alleged child abuse and neglect cases involving girls in Southwest Florida in 2008–2009. The highest reported maltreatment category was substance misuse, followed by threatened harm, and family violence that threatens the child.

In Florida, a total of 15,789 victims of domestic violence were admitted into local shelters and over 40,000 victims of domestic violence were provided with abuse counseling and treatment without residential admission. There were 226 rapes reported in 2010 in Southwest Florida.

Women in Florida are less likely than men to be incarcerated. According to the Florida Department of corrections, there were 102,232 inmates in Florida prisons during the fiscal year of 2009–2010. Only 7% (7,144) of all inmates in Florida prisons were women.

Gaps and More to Learn

The key purpose of this study is to provide the most accurate and current picture of the role and status of women and girls in Southwest Florida by analyzing and reporting existing data. Essential to this function is to determine what information exists, as well as determine what information is lacking and/or difficult to find. In essence, an important function or purpose of this study is to uncover missing data or gaps in current data sources. Identifying such gaps is critical not only to fill in the blanks with up-to-date information, but also to modify and adjust databases and information collection systems that respond to the changing dynamics of women's roles in Southwest Florida. Asking the following questions regarding data collected from existing data sources provides a platform for future research:

- “Where are we?”
- “Where do we want to be?”
- “What more do we need to learn?”

Such questions can be answered by expanding on data gaps and by developing in-depth questions that provoke a *More to Learn* outlook. The following section offers in-depth questions for each preceding section of this study. Further research in such areas could create a wealth of understanding regarding and status of the women in Southwest Florida.

Population and Diversity

- What is the gender mix in urban and rural communities?
- What are the “migration” patterns of females?
- What are the number and distribution of lesbians and bisexual women living in Southwest Florida?
- What is the prevalence of same-sex marriages and same-sex couples living together?

Employment and Income

- What are the influences that cause the labor force participation rate for women to be lower than men, and how are they changing over time?
- What are the dominant reasons for fewer women working in management occupations than men?
- Is the rate at which women are entering into management occupations in Southwest Florida consistent with the national average?
- Is the gender wage gap decreasing in Southwest Florida at the same pace as the national average?
- Will the unemployment rate for women exceed the unemployment rate for men after the housing market has recovered?
- What is the difference in wealth for women and men?
- How many women are starting businesses per year?
- What are the types of businesses are women more likely to start?
- What types entrepreneurship programs exist for women in Southwest Florida?
- How does education influence success and pay?
- How does experience influence pay?
- What is the level of underemployment for women?
- What is the supply and demand of child care and support in Southwest Florida?
- What is the value of unpaid labor?

Achievement and Autonomy

- What programs are available to assist girls who drop out of high school?
- What percentage of women entering graduate school complete advanced degrees?
- What are the advanced degrees received by women in Southwest Florida?
- What are the hurdles facing women who want to obtain advanced or professional degrees?
- What programs are available to improve literacy in Southwest Florida?
- What are the leadership roles of women in political parties in Southwest Florida?
- What is the home affordability index for Southwest Florida?
- How many female and male residents live in public housing or receive Section 8 Vouchers?
- How have approval rates for home and business loans changed since stricter credit requirements have been implemented?
- What are the opportunities for women and girls to mentor with businesswomen and receive counseling on career choices?
- What percentage of Small Business Administration do women obtain?
- What number of organizations in Southwest Florida are managed or owned by women?
- How many women are involved in small business and how many of those have received small business loans?
- What entrepreneurial programs are available to assist women and girls?

Health and Well-Being

- What is the level of human trafficking in Southwest Florida?
- What is the number and frequency of rape victims in Southwest Florida?
- How many women and girls in Southwest Florida experience sexual harassment at work, school, home, etc.?
- How many women and girls in Southwest Florida participate in organized sports?
- What programs are offered in Southwest Florida to educate women and girls to certain health risks such as heart disease, cancer, or chronic lower respiratory disease?
- Why does Hendry County have a higher percentage of women with hypertension and diabetes as compared with the other Southwest Florida Counties?
- How many women and girls in Southwest Florida have HIV/AIDS?
- What programs are in place to educate women and girls about the risks of sexually-transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS?
- What can be done to reduce tobacco and alcohol use in Glades and Hendry Counties?
- How many same-sex partners in Southwest Florida have children?

Recommendations

Study recommendations are based upon analyses of data and existing information for the women and girls in Southwest Florida. This broad range of information is provided to support The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida and its Board of Directors in identifying a plan of action that could elevate the status of women and girls in the region. These recommendations also provide for the development of strategies and policies in support of awarding grants to programs and organizations that address the special, critical needs of Southwest Florida women and girls. These recommendations are not presented in any suggested order, but as a collection of activities that could be conducted for the enrichment and development of women and girls in the region. The intent of this study is to provide a building block for the development of a short-run business plan and a long-run strategic plan that reinforces the mission of The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida.

Key Findings: Positive Attributes for Women in Southwest Florida

Below is a list of positive attributes and key findings with regard to women and girls in Southwest Florida.

- Women and girls account for a greater percentage of the population in the region, and a large percentage of women are foreign-born.
- Married women account for 54.7% of the female population over age 15 with another 25.1% widowed or divorced. Only 18.5% of women over age 15 have never been married.
- Women in Southwest Florida have lower rates of unemployment when compared to their male counterparts.
- Black women have the highest labor force participation rates in Southwest Florida at 66.7%.
- Women hold a much higher percentage of healthcare and education jobs than men.
- Nearly 5% of women are self-employed in their own incorporated businesses.
- Women in Hendry County have median earnings that are 123.7% of the median earnings for men.
- A greater percentage of girls than boys graduate from high school.
- Girls tend to outperform boys in reading scores and receive less out-of-school suspensions than boys.
- More women are registered to vote than men, thus showing greater interest and voting.
- Homeownership rates are higher in Southwest Florida than the state.
- Women have a lower death rate than men.
- Girls are less likely than boys to use illicit drugs and tobacco.
- Women are less likely to engage in such activities as binge drinking.
- Women are less likely to be incarcerated than men.
- Women have a lower incidence of being classified as overweight than men.

Recommended Action Items

Although there are many positive aspects for women and girls in Southwest Florida, the data indicates that women and girls in the region continue to face many challenges and limitations that inhibit full participation in all aspects of the economy and society. Some limitations are a result of cultural and societal barriers, while other limitations are due to policy restrictions and outdated practices. Yet many women and girls in Southwest Florida appear to be relatively healthy, and in fact, they are often healthier than their male counterparts; however, based on this study, there appear to be gaps in wellness and health initiatives among different ethnic groups.

This study indicates that issues such as poverty and a lack of affordable housing appear to affect Southwest Florida female-headed households, women of color, and older women more than males and couples with families. This study also found that women are underrepresented in political offices, and they own only 25% of incorporated companies.

Based on analyses of data, a list of possible action items has been identified. These action items are to be considered areas that can be targeted to improve the conditions and status of women and girls in Southwest Florida. This list is by no means exhaustive and final, and due to the fluid nature of society is expected to change over time.

The following pages include possible recommended action items that should be considered in creating new programs and policy initiatives for women and girls in Southwest Florida.

Population and Diversity

Opportunity		Recommended Action
There are 107,126 Hispanic women and girls in Southwest Florida	→	Offer training and programs for a growing female Hispanic population
Foreign-born population accounts for 16.2% of total females in Southwest Florida	→	Assist foreign-born women and girls to become U.S. Citizens
Female-headed households with no husband present account for 9.6% of regional households and approximately 50% of these have dependent children under 18 years old	→	Offer assistance to single mothers
Divorce rates were highest in Collier and Lee Counties at 12.7% and 12.6% respectively	→	Provide marriage and family counseling
Hendry and Glades Counties have 32% and 77% of women living in rural areas	→	Develop programs aimed at providing additional educational opportunities for women in rural areas
There are over 6,500 female veterans living in Southwest Florida	→	Provide opportunities and information for women in the military and for women veterans

Employment

Opportunity		Recommended Action
Women have lower rates of labor force participation than men (47.7% to 58.0%)	→	Support studies to better understand the reasons for low labor force participation by women
In Southwest Florida, 74.2% of women were part-time or seasonal employees in 2010 as compared with 66.0% of men	→	Survey businesses to determine women's concerns and issues surrounding employment opportunities and barriers
In management, science, and related occupations, only 25.5% of women hold management positions compared to 45.3% for men	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote STEM and programs that involve girls and young women in the study of science • Survey business and organizations to better understand women's roles in leadership positions
Women are in historically lower paying occupations than men. For example, 55.5% of women are in support occupations such as sales and office employee compared to 39.7% of men	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentor girls on career choices and provide them with information to encourage them to make better decisions • Work with existing educational systems and organizations to create more awareness of higher wage employment opportunities for women
Overall women have median annual earnings that are 87.9% of men	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review equal pay and comparable worth legislation and provide recommended changes • Identify, counsel, and support candidates that support equal opportunity for women and girls
Women receive lower Social Security benefits than men in four of Southwest Florida's five counties	→	Provide assistance to help women

Achievement and Autonomy

Opportunity		Recommended Action
In three of the five largest counties in Southwest Florida, a greater percentage of males than females 18 and older earn advanced degrees: bachelor's (48.1% to 51.2%) graduate/professional (42% to 58%). In addition, Overall, females in Southwest Florida have a lower college or graduate enrollment percentage than in the State of Florida (6.6% to 9.7%)	→	Promote and assist girls in achieving advanced college and professional degrees
Racially, Whites, Hispanics, and Blacks have a lower completion rate of Adult Basic Education Literacy than Asian and American Indians	→	Work with schools in developing program that identify and challenge lower performing girls to build self-esteem and learn basic competencies
A limited number of females hold political office in Southwest Florida (18 women hold office of a possible 76 positions ranging from county judge to U.S. Senator)	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote leadership programs in school for young girls • Launch a women's network for women leaders to reach out and gain support • Provide training or mentoring programs for girls interested in public office
Only 66.2% of women in Southwest Florida are registered to vote	→	Support voter registration campaign that target women to get involve and to vote.
Overall, Southwest Florida homeownership is less than the Florida rate for "Female householder (no husband present)" (8.5% to 13.5%)	→	Provide education, assistance, and support for women with home ownership
The approval rates for government and conventional loans are lower for minorities than Whites (18.3% denied for Whites compared to 29.3% denied for Blacks)	→	Develop material and information, as well as support for advocacy programs, that help women, especially minority, gain access to social support services; e.g., housing, health, training, etc.
Only 26% of firms in Southwest Florida are female-owned (Table 36)	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct public and media relations campaigns to promote women-owned businesses and the importance of these businesses in the community • Support entrepreneurial training and programs that pave the way for women and girls to own their own business

Health and Well-Being

Opportunity		Recommended Action
The leading causes of death for Southwest Florida women in 2010 are cancer (1,275), heart disease (1,214), chronic lower respiratory disease (385), and unintentional injuries (222), and the Black female age-adjusted death rates were significantly higher than for White females in all counties	→	Work with health care providers and health systems to promote greater access to health care services, especially in rural counties
The percentage of women over 40 who received a mammogram in the past year remains low, varying from 48.6% in Glades County to 69.3% in Collier County	→	Sponsor and support organizations and agencies that promote preventive health care services
Women generally have a higher rate of sexually-transmitted infections than men, and women have higher infection rates for chlamydia in Glades and Hendry Counties	→	Provide early education, support material, and programs that assist girls in becoming aware of safe sex, sex education, and the prevention of unplanned pregnancies
32.0% of Southwest Florida female youth have used illicit drugs and tobacco in their lifetimes, and approximately 50% of female youth have used alcohol during their lifetime	→	Support organizations and promote material that educates girls about the dangers of alcohol and drugs
Current women smokers are 9.9% of the Collier County women population and represent as high as 24.6% of the Lee County female population	→	Support organizations and promote material that educates girls about the use of tobacco and provides smoking cessation programs
Diagnosed diabetes for women is high, ranging from 6.2% in Collier County to 15.1% in Hendry County	→	Develop educational material and campaigns that promote healthy eating and healthy foods in schools and the dangers of diabetes
A high percent of women are overweight or obese (46.7% in Collier County to 69.2% in Glades County)	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop educational material and campaigns that promote healthy eating and healthy foods in schools and poor urban areas • Promote events and self-help programs that assist women and girls with wellness and a healthy lifestyle
Almost 1,000 girls between 5 and 15 years have a disability and an income below the poverty level in Southwest Florida, and there were 865 girls between 16 and 20 years with a disability and who were living with income below the poverty level in Southwest Florida	→	Provide assistance to organizations that provide support and services (physical, social, etc.) to women both young and old with disabilities

There were 4,232 women 65 and older below the poverty income level with a disability in Southwest Florida	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance to organizations that provide support and services (physical, social, etc.) to women both young and old with disabilities • Support social services programs that assist senior females living with disability
The percentage of women and girls eligible for Medicaid is between 10% and 15% of the population	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide education and support material to educate women about Medicaid • Provide assistance and support to social services agencies and advocacy programs that counsel and support people eligible for Medicaid
A total of 11,613 cases of child abuse and neglect were investigated during 2008–2009 in Southwest Florida, including 5,785 females	→	Conduct case study analysis in conjunction with law enforcement agencies and non-profit groups in regard to abuse of women and human trafficking
A total of 226 forcible rapes were reported in Southwest Florida in 2010	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote educational material and develop public relations campaigns that portray women as individuals and not objects • Support abused women • Reduce bullying and harassment in schools through educational initiatives. • Sponsor and promote events for public awareness of violence against women and educate women and girls about their rights
Young women ages 18 and under accounted for over 300 births in 2010. Of the counties, Lee County accounted for 52.3% of Southwest Florida births to girls ages 18 and under, with Black girls at 38.9% and Hispanic girls at 20.2%. Overall, Hendry County reported the highest fertility rate for this age group.	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide care and support to women and girls in early pregnancy • Provide transportation for women and girls especially those who are pregnant, to access health care facilities for pre-natal care and well-baby visits • Establish mentoring programs to help girls, especially those from lower socio-economic groups with single parents, with educational and life choices • Provide access to quality, affordable, comprehensive health and reproductive care for all women and girls

Summary

This study represents the first comprehensive study conducted in Southwest Florida on the economic, health, and achievement needs of women and girls within the region. This study provides a profile on the status of women and girls throughout the five-county area, and uses the recently released 2010 U.S. Census to present the most current and clear picture of women and girls in the region. This study also identifies gaps or limitations in existing data to provide up to date information on the role and status of women and girls in the region. In addition, this study presents the assets that women have in Southwest Florida as well as a list of recommended action items that could be considered based upon the study's data analyses.

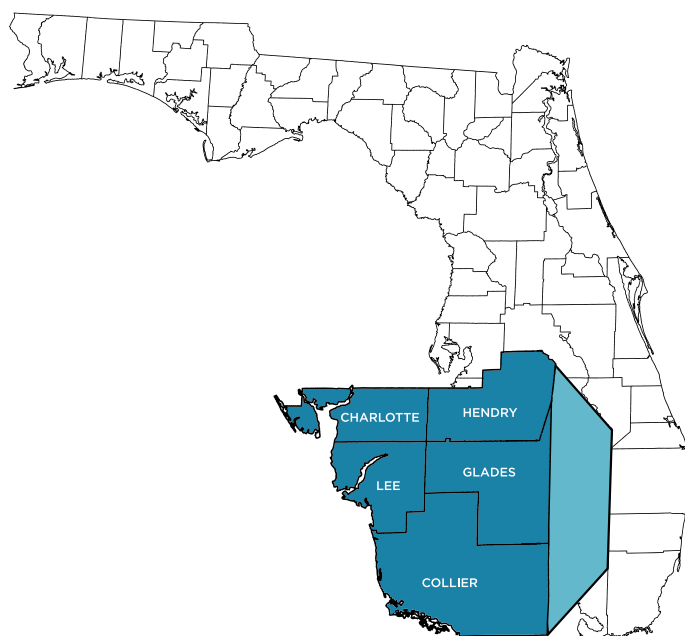
There are various opportunities for women to advance and achieve equity in the region. Many women in Southwest Florida are highly educated and are actively involved in small business ownership and the workforce. In addition, the region has undergone significant growth over the last few decades making it one of the fastest growing regions in the United States.

The Women's Fund of Southwest Florida has the opportunity to not only educate the region about issues facing women and girls, but also to develop action initiatives and programs that can help and support women and girls economically, educationally, and physically in the future.



Population and Diversity

This section of the Southwest Florida Women's Fund report communicates information regarding the population and diversity of women in Southwest Florida based on statistical findings. The information found throughout the Population and Diversity section serves as an important precursor to latter sections of the report. Included in the Population and Diversity section are the following topics:



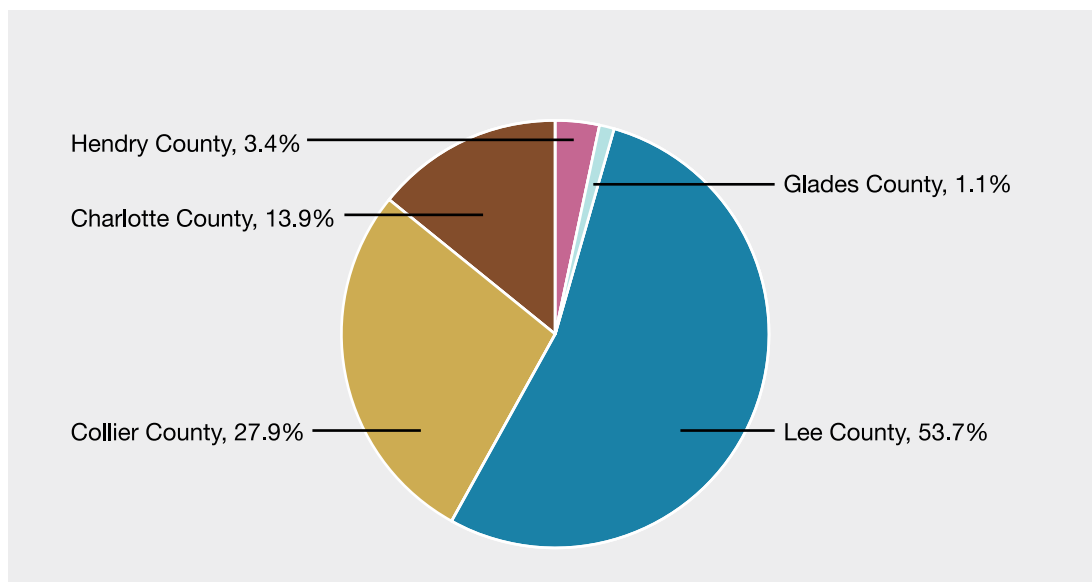
- Populations by county
- Racial and ethnic diversity
- Age of population
- Marital and family status
- Urban and rural populations
- Veteran status

This study encompasses the five-county area of Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties. Combined, these counties measure approximately 5,422 square miles and have a population of nearly 1.2 million. The state's overall population is 18.8 million. Within these counties, nearly 600,000 individuals are women and girls.

Population by County

The Southwest Florida region has an overall population of 1,152,276. The percentage of the regional population by county is shown in Figure 1. Lee County is the most populous county in the region with 53.7% of the population, or 618,754 people. Collier County's population accounts for 27.9% of the region's population with 321,520 residents. Charlotte County's population contains 13.9% of the region's population with 159,978 residents. Glades and Hendry Counties make up approximately 5% of the region's population, with 39,140 residents in Hendry County and 12,884 residents in Glades County.

Figure 1
Population by County (Percent)



Source: U.S. Census 2010

Over 583,000 women and girls live in Southwest Florida. Most women and girls were reported living in Lee County (315,154), which remains the most populated county in Southwest Florida. Glades County held the lowest population of women and girls with only 5,441 females, Glades County was also reported to be the lowest populated county at 12,884, as shown in Table 1.

Women make up 50.7% of the population of Southwest Florida. Females in Charlotte (51.4%), Collier (50.7%), and Lee Counties (50.9%) outnumbered men, while females in Glades (42.2%) and Hendry Counties (45.8%) are outnumbered by males, as shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Total Population in Florida, South Florida, and Counties, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	18,801,310	1,152,276	159,978	321,520	12,884	39,140	618,754
Females	9,611,955	583,779	82,216	163,026	5,441	17,942	315,154
% of population	51.1%	50.7%	51.4%	50.7%	42.2%	45.8%	50.9%
Males	9,189,355	568,497	77,762	158,494	7,443	21,198	303,600
% of population	48.9%	49.3%	48.6%	49.3%	57.8%	54.2%	49.1%

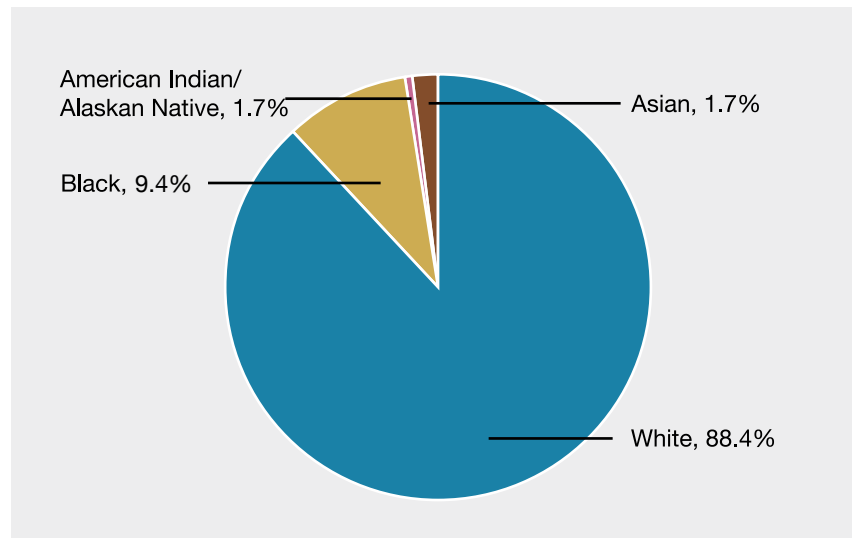
Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Approximately one in ten women in Southwest Florida is a member of a minority group. White females make up 88.4% of Southwest Florida females, and Black females account for 9.4%. American Indians and Alaskan Natives make up 0.5% of the females in Southwest Florida, while 1.7% are Asian, as shown in Figure 2 and Table 2. Hispanic females account for 18.4% of all females in Southwest Florida.

Hendry County is the most racially-diverse county in Southwest Florida. Black, American Indian, and Asian residents account for 13.9% of the population. The least diverse was Charlotte County, with 6.6% of the population being classified as a member of a minority group.

Figure 2
Race of Southwest Florida Women, 2010



Source: U.S. Census 2010

Southwest Florida's foreign-born female population is lower than the state's foreign-born female population. Females born outside of the United States make up 16.5% of the population in Southwest Florida. Of those, 40.2% became naturalized citizens. Table 2 shows that Southwest Florida had 94,713 foreign-born females with approximately 68% born in Latin America.

Table 2
Foreign-Born Female Population by Place of Birth and Citizenship Status

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female foreign-born	1,847,367	94,713	8,005	35,982	867	3,648	46,211
Percent of total female population	19.5%	16.5%	9.8%	22.6%	15.3%	20.1%	15.0%
Place of birth:							
Europe	210,116	16,864	2,318	6,615	20	38	7,873
Asia	189,489	7,141	1,007	1,549	67	117	4,401
Latin America	1,356,417	64,249	3,524	25,822	725	3,386	30,792
Other	83,759	5,330	943	1,580	41	113	2,653
Naturalized foreign-born female citizens (percent)	50.4%	40.2%	64.3%	35.9%	25.1%	28.5%	40.5%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimate

Southwest Florida's foreign-born male population is lower than the state's foreign-born male population. Males born outside of the United States make up 17.9% of the population in Southwest Florida. Of those, 31.5% became naturalized citizens. Table 3 shows that Southwest Florida had 100,513 foreign-born males with approximately 76% born in Latin America.

Table 3
Foreign-Born Male Population by Place of Birth and Citizenship Status

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Male foreign-born	1,702,143	100,513	6,719	38,890	1,190	7,185	46,529
Percent of total male population	18.8%	17.9%	4.3%	559.8%	5.7%	2.4%	15.6%
Place of birth:							
Europe	170,214	13,537	2,439	5,086	17	95	5,900
Asia	160,243	5,448	527	1,350	166	91	3,314
Latin America	1,287,927	76,198	2,810	30,874	966	6,886	34,662
Other	83,759	5,330	943	1,580	41	113	2,653
Naturalized foreign-born male citizens (percent)	43.2%	31.5%	57.2%	27.5%	22.6%	18.5%	33.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimate

White females account for the largest population demographic in Southwest Florida. In 2010, the White female population was 411,544, or 35.7% of the Southwest Florida population. The age distribution for the White female population was 12.9% for women ages 18 and under, 33.2% for women ages 65 and older, and 4.1% for women ages 85 and older, as shown in Table 4. There were more White males than White females ages 18 and under at 14.5%. Glades and Hendry Counties show a substantially younger White population when compared with the coastal counties.

Table 4
Population of Southwest Florida for the White Population, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total White population	10,659,565	797,980	135,715	208,968	7,405	13,110	432,782
White females	5,457,136	411,554	70,108	108,787	3,689	6,625	222,345
% of total population	29.0%	35.7%	43.8%	33.8%	28.6%	16.9%	35.9%
% of racial/ethnic group	51.2%	51.6%	51.7%	52.1%	49.8%	50.5%	51.4%
% under 18 years	16.2%	12.9%	11.5%	12.3%	15.2%	18.4%	13.5%
% over 65 years	24.5%	33.2%	37.0%	36.9%	32.5%	20.8%	30.6%
% over 85 years	3.7%	4.1%	4.8%	4.4%	2.6%	2.5%	3.8%
White males	5,202,429	386,426	65,607	100,181	3,716	6,485	210,437
% of total population	27.7%	33.5%	41.0%	31.2%	28.8%	16.6%	34.0%
% of racial/ethnic group	48.8%	48.4%	48.3%	47.9%	50.2%	49.5%	48.6%
% under 18 years	18.0%	14.5%	13.1%	13.8%	14.6%	20.0%	15.0%
% over 65 years	21.6%	32.8%	36.7%	37.2%	34.6%	21.8%	29.9%
% over 85 years	2.4%	3.2%	3.7%	3.8%	2.2%	1.9%	2.9%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Black females account for a substantially smaller population demographic in Southwest Florida than White females. In 2010, the Black female population was 43,812, or 3.8% of the Southwest Florida population. The age distribution for the Black female population was 31.2% for women ages 18 and under, 10.2% for women ages 65 and older, and 1.0% for women ages 85 years and older, as shown in Table 5. There were more Black males than Black females ages 18 and under at 34.6%. Lee and Collier Counties show the highest percentage of Black females ages 18 or under at 32.4% and 32.3% of the county's Black population, respectively.

Table 5
Population of Southwest Florida for the Black Population, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Black population	2,872,498	83,929	8,226	20,552	767	4,513	49,871
Black females	1,529,379	43,812	4,414	10,443	389	2,372	26,194
% of total population	8.1%	3.8%	2.8%	3.2%	3.0%	6.1%	4.2%
% of racial/ethnic group	53.2%	52.2%	53.7%	50.8%	50.7%	52.6%	52.5%
% under 18 years	27.6%	31.2%	23.0%	32.3%	22.4%	29.4%	32.4%
% over 65 years	9.4%	10.2%	24.4%	7.9%	11.3%	10.5%	8.6%
% over 85 years	1.0%	1.0%	3.3%	0.5%	0.5%	1.1%	0.9%
Black males	1,343,119	40,117	3,812	10,109	378	2,141	23,677
% of total population	7.1%	3.5%	2.4%	3.1%	2.9%	5.5%	3.8%
% of racial/ethnic group	46.8%	47.8%	46.3%	49.2%	49.3%	47.4%	47.5%
% under 18 years	32.4%	34.6%	27.3%	35.4%	28.6%	36.5%	35.4%
% over 65 years	7.4%	8.5%	19.7%	6.4%	12.7%	10.7%	7.4%
% over 85 years	0.5%	0.6%	2.2%	0.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

American Indian/Alaskan Native females account for a smaller population demographic in Southwest Florida than Black females. In 2010, the American Indian/Alaskan Native female population was 2,344, or 0.2% of the Southwest Florida population. The age distribution for the American Indian/Alaskan Native female population was 31.7% for women ages 18 and under, 9.1% for women ages 65 and older, and 0.9% for women ages 85 and older, as shown in Table 6. There were fewer American Indian/Alaskan Native males than females ages 18 and under at 29.4%. Glades County shows the highest percentage of American Indian/Alaskan Native population at 4.5%.

Table 6

Population of Southwest Florida Counties for the American Indian/Alaskan Native Population, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total American Indian/Alaskan Native population	70,178	4,949	413	1,108	585	668	2,175
American Indian/Alaskan Native females	34,155	2,344	204	530	283	336	991
% of total population	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	2.2%	0.9%	0.2%
% of racial/ethnic group	48.7%	47.4%	49.4%	47.8%	48.4%	50.3%	45.6%
% under 18 years	25.4%	31.7%	23.0%	34.3%	39.6%	37.8%	27.6%
% over 65 years	8.8%	9.1%	13.2%	10.0%	9.5%	8.0%	8.1%
% over 85 years	0.8%	0.9%	1.0%	1.3%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%
American Indian/Alaskan Native males	36,023	2,605	209	578	302	332	1,184
% of total population	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	2.3%	0.8%	0.2%
% of racial/ethnic group	51.3%	52.6%	50.6%	52.2%	51.6%	49.7%	54.4%
% under 18 years	24.8%	29.4%	13.9%	32.0%	48.7%	38.9%	23.4%
% over 65 years	7.9%	7.4%	16.7%	6.4%	6.3%	4.8%	7.2%
% over 85 years	0.4%	0.4%	1.9%	0.2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.3%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Asian females account for the smallest population demographic in Southwest Florida. In 2010, the Asian female population was 8,020, or 0.7% of the Southwest Florida population. The age distribution for the Asian female population was 20.7% for women ages 18 and under, 12.4% for women ages 65 and older, and 0.8 for women ages 85 and older, as shown in Table 7. There were only 6,106 Asian males in Southwest Florida, or 43.2% of the Asian population.

Table 7
Population of Southwest Florida for Asian Population, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Asian population	446,767	14,126	1,907	3,481	45	277	8,416
Asian females	240,956	8,020	1,136	1,954	25	138	4,767
% of total population	1.3%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%	0.8%
% of racial/ethnic group	53.9%	56.8%	59.6%	56.1%	55.6%	49.8%	56.6%
% under 18 years	20.5%	20.7%	19.1%	21.8%	16.0%	21.0%	20.6%
% over 65 years	9.6%	12.4%	16.9%	10.8%	20.0%	13.8%	11.9%
% over 85 years	0.6%	0.8%	1.2%	0.3%	0.0%	2.2%	0.8%
Asian males	205,811	6,106	771	1,527	20	139	3,649
% of total population	1.1%	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%
% of racial/ethnic group	46.1%	43.2%	40.4%	43.9%	44.4%	50.2%	43.4%
% under 18 years	24.0%	24.1%	21.8%	22.5%	15.0%	24.5%	25.4%
% over 65 years	8.4%	13.1%	14.5%	14.0%	15.0%	12.2%	12.4%
% over 85 years	0.4%	0.6%	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.7%	0.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Hispanic females account for the largest ethnic population demographic in Southwest Florida. In 2010, the Hispanic female population was 107,126, or 9.3% of the Southwest Florida population. The age distribution for the Hispanic female population was 33.2% for women ages 18 and under, 6.7% for women ages 65 and older, and 0.6% for women ages 85 and older, as shown in Table 8. There were more Hispanic males than women in Southwest Florida at 116,892, or 52.2% of the Hispanic population.

Table 8
Population of Southwest Florida for Hispanic Population, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Hispanic population	4,164,821	224,018	9,004	81,413	2,602	18,579	112,420
Hispanic females	2,118,942	107,126	4,629	38,864	990	8,293	54,350
% of total population	11.3%	9.3%	2.9%	12.1%	7.7%	21.2%	8.8%
% of racial/ethnic group	50.9%	47.8%	51.4%	47.7%	38.0%	44.6%	48.3%
% under 18 years	25.4%	33.2%	30.2%	32.6%	39.2%	38.2%	33.1%
% over 65 years	11.8%	6.7%	13.8%	6.3%	4.7%	5.3%	6.6%
% over 85 years	1.4%	0.6%	1.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%
Hispanic males	2,045,879	116,892	4,375	42,549	1,612	10,286	58,070
% of total population	10.9%	10.1%	2.7%	13.2%	12.5%	26.3%	9.4%
% of racial/ethnic group	49.1%	52.2%	48.6%	52.3%	62.0%	55.4%	51.7%
% under 18 years	27.6%	32.5%	32.2%	31.8%	28.9%	32.5%	33.2%
% over 65 years	8.7%	5.1%	11.4%	4.7%	3.8%	5.2%	5.0%
% over 85 years	0.8%	0.3%	0.9%	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Age of Population

The median age for women in Southwest Florida is higher than the median age for men. Table 9 shows that the median age for women in Florida was 42.1 years versus the lower median age of 39.4 years for men in 2010. Charlotte County had the highest median age of 56.9 years for women and 54.6 years for men, reflecting the county's desirability as a retirement destination. Hendry County had the lowest median age of 33.5 for women and 32.4 for men.

Table 9
Median Age of Southwest Florida Population, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	40.7	55.9	46.9	43.1	32.8	45.6
Female	42.1	56.9	48.5	45.7	33.5	46.9
Male	39.4	54.6	45.3	41.2	32.4	44.2

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Hispanic women have a lower median age than non-Hispanic women in the State of Florida. In 2010, the median age for Hispanic women in the State of Florida was 35.1 years, as shown in Table 10. Glades County reported the lowest median age for Hispanic women at 24.5 years, whereas Charlotte County reported the highest median age at 35.3 years. In the State of Florida, White non-Hispanic women were reported to have the highest median age at 48.6 years, which was consistent with the lowest median age reported for White non-Hispanic women in Hendry County. Charlotte County reported the highest median age for White non-Hispanic women at 58.9 years. The lowest median age in the State of Florida by race was for Black women at 32.4 years. There was a significant median age difference for Black women in Charlotte County when compared to Lee and Collier Counties. The median age for Black women was 45.7 years in Charlotte County, but only 29.9 years in Lee County and 30.4 years in Collier County.

Table 10
Median Age of Females by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White	48.6	58.9	58.2	55.0	46.8	54.0
Black	32.4	45.7	30.4	36.8	32.0	29.9
American Indian/ Alaskan Native	36.0	41.8	32.0	27.7	30.6	33.5
Asian	37.3	45.0	38.9	47.5	36.0	39.3
Hispanic	35.1	35.3	29.0	24.5	24.7	28.9

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Women are living longer than men in the State of Florida. Table 11 shows that women living longer than men resulted in 13,598 more women ages 65 and older than men ages 65 and older in Southwest Florida in 2010. There were also 5,986 more women ages 85 and older than men ages 85 and older in Southwest Florida. Conversely, Glades and Hendry Counties had more men ages 65 and older than women ages 65 and older due to the larger number of men as a percentage of the total population.

Table 11
Older Adults in Southwest Florida, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total female population	9,611,955	583,779	82,216	163,026	5,441	17,942	315,154
Number over age 65	1,809,176	152,756	28,626	44,363	1,327	2,202	76,238
Number over age 85	275,812	19,762	4,030	5,404	103	273	9,952
Total male population	9,189,355	568,497	77,762	158,494	7,443	21,198	303,600
Number over age 65	1,450,426	139,158	25,973	40,588	1,440	2,289	68,868
Number over age 85	158,313	13,776	2,740	4,103	83	201	6,649

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

One out of every five women and girls in Southwest Florida is under the age of 18. In 2010, females ages 18 and under accounted for 48.8% of the under-18 population in Southwest Florida. There were 107,117 females and 112,580 males ages 18 and under, as shown in Table 12.

Table 12
Southwest Florida Population Under Age 18, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total girls	1,955,100	107,117	11,120	30,563	1,155	5,277	59,002
White	887,857	53,219	8,061	13,406	562	1,221	29,969
Black	424,485	13,745	1,020	3,424	87	698	8,516
American Indian/Alaskan	8,698	742	47	182	112	127	274
Asian	49,456	1,659	217	427	4	29	982
Hispanic	538,766	35,741	1,399	12,763	388	3,171	18,020
Total boys	2,046,991	112,580	11,758	32,084	1,262	5,609	61,867
White	938,428	56,037	8,620	13,898	542	1,296	31,681
Black	438,847	13,990	1,056	3,626	108	782	8,418
American Indian/Alaskan	8,972	767	29	185	147	129	277
Asian	49,507	1,477	168	345	3	34	927
Hispanic	565,858	38,214	1,417	13,672	466	3,343	19,316

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Female and male populations by age for the State of Florida and the five-county region of Southwest Florida. Tables 13–15 show that in 2010, the number of females in Southwest Florida was less than the number of males for each age group until ages 45 to 49 years. For that age group and above,

the number of males was less than the number of females in Southwest Florida. The percentage of females in the population tends to be larger in older age groups due to longer life expectancy rates for females.

Table 13
Female Population of Southwest Florida Counties by Age, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	18,801,310	1,152,276	159,978	321,520	12,884	39,140	618,754
Total female population	9,611,955	583,779	82,216	163,026	5,441	17,942	315,154
Under 5 years	525,521	28,987	2,692	8,345	361	1,513	16,076
5 to 9 years	529,202	29,308	2,970	8,406	315	1,443	16,174
10 to 14 years	552,158	30,121	3,244	8,448	307	1,383	16,739
15 to 17 years	348,219	18,701	2,214	5,364	172	938	10,013
18 and 19 years	248,876	12,203	1,315	3,031	118	578	7,161
20 years	126,563	5,581	559	1,338	61	252	3,371
21 years	121,737	5,489	519	1,422	57	251	3,240
22 to 24 years	353,395	16,549	1,621	4,376	146	731	9,675
25 to 29 years	584,330	28,524	2,752	7,878	297	1,143	16,454
30 to 34 years	555,079	27,552	2,582	7,738	253	1,083	15,896
35 to 39 years	593,326	30,129	3,156	8,452	251	1,214	17,056
40 to 44 years	629,457	32,731	3,879	9,320	331	1,158	18,043
45 to 49 years	709,867	37,907	5,171	10,514	319	1,181	20,722
50 to 54 years	690,258	39,351	6,000	10,502	328	1,089	21,432
55 to 59 years	633,409	40,762	6,751	10,815	405	914	21,877
60 and 61 years	243,468	17,994	3,046	4,845	164	343	9,596
62 to 64 years	357,914	29,134	5,119	7,869	229	526	15,391
65 and 66 years	211,263	18,415	3,244	5,288	196	303	9,384
67 to 69 years	299,777	27,251	4,819	7,918	253	399	13,862
70 to 74 years	410,799	36,871	6,844	10,953	388	537	18,149
75 to 79 years	335,427	28,339	5,352	8,452	234	404	13,897
80 to 84 years	276,098	22,118	4,337	6,348	153	286	10,994
85 years and over	275,812	19,762	4,030	5,404	103	273	9,952

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 14
Male Population of Southwest Florida Counties by Age, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	18,801,310	1,152,276	159,978	321,520	12,884	39,140	618,754
Total male population	9,189,355	568,497	77,762	158,494	7,443	21,198	303,600
Under 5 years	547,985	30,109	2,853	8,491	357	1,618	16,790
5 to 9 years	551,053	30,940	3,061	8,871	330	1,522	17,156
10 to 14 years	578,689	31,622	3,529	9,003	354	1,480	17,256
15 to 17 years	369,264	19,909	2,315	5,719	221	989	10,665
18 and 19 years	262,023	13,172	1,492	3,499	176	683	7,322
20 years	131,467	6,282	696	1,610	88	357	3,531
21 years	126,865	6,155	635	1,626	93	361	3,440
22 to 24 years	368,731	17,980	1,775	5,144	273	1,052	9,736
25 to 29 years	594,897	31,063	2,952	8,626	599	1,770	17,116
30 to 34 years	555,239	29,725	2,900	8,308	525	1,580	16,412
35 to 39 years	585,141	30,817	3,162	8,440	555	1,481	17,179
40 to 44 years	623,330	33,379	3,898	9,345	525	1,413	18,198
45 to 49 years	691,335	37,109	4,881	10,249	540	1,429	20,010
50 to 54 years	650,033	36,128	5,180	9,564	482	1,309	19,593
55 to 59 years	569,009	34,708	5,441	9,042	449	988	18,788
60 and 61 years	215,283	15,005	2,512	3,822	186	357	8,128
62 to 64 years	318,585	25,236	4,507	6,547	250	520	13,412
65 and 66 years	186,654	16,672	2,926	4,452	196	341	8,757
67 to 69 years	261,539	25,303	4,561	7,043	262	416	13,021
70 to 74 years	357,908	35,833	6,551	10,500	433	612	17,737
75 to 79 years	280,087	27,824	5,471	8,405	286	428	13,234
80 to 84 years	205,925	19,750	3,724	6,085	180	291	9,470
85 years and over	158,313	13,776	2,740	4,103	83	201	6,649

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 15
Percent of Total Population by Gender and Age, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female							
Percent under 18 years	20.3%	18.3%	13.5%	18.7%	21.2%	29.4%	18.7%
Percent over 65 years	18.8%	26.2%	34.8%	27.2%	24.4%	12.3%	24.2%
Percent over 85 years	2.9%	3.4%	4.9%	3.3%	1.9%	1.5%	3.2%
Male							
Percent under 18 years	22.3%	19.8%	15.1%	20.2%	17.0%	26.5%	20.4%
Percent over 65 years	15.8%	24.5%	33.4%	25.6%	19.3%	10.8%	22.7%
Percent over 85 years	1.7%	2.4%	3.5%	2.6%	1.1%	0.9%	2.2%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Marital and Family Status

Marital status as recorded by the U.S. Census Bureau in 2010 for individuals age 16 years and older is shown in Table 16.

Married women account for a lower number of the female population than married men in Southwest Florida. Married women accounted for 54.7% of the female population, while married men accounted for 59.0% of the male population. Hendry County had the lowest percentage of married females at 47.9%, while Charlotte County had highest percentage of married females at 57.6%.

One in five women in Southwest Florida has never married, whereas almost one in four men have never married. In Southwest Florida, 18.5% of women have never married compared to 25% of men. Hendry County had the highest percentage of unmarried women ages 16 and older in Southwest Florida at 38.5%.

More women than men are divorced in Southwest Florida. There were 59,826 divorced women in Southwest Florida, or 12.1% of the female population in 2010. The divorce rates in each county were similar to one another, with Charlotte County having the highest rate at 12.7%. The overall divorce rate for Southwest Florida was lower than the rate for the State of Florida, which was at 14.0%. Separation rates were higher in Glades and Hendry Counties than for the other three counties in Southwest Florida.

Three times as many Southwest Florida women than men are widowed. In 2010, 57,912 women were widowed in Southwest Florida, which accounted for 12.1% of the female population, whereas widowed men accounted for only 3.7% of the male population. Charlotte County had the highest widowed female population at 15.2%.

Table 16

Marital Status of Population, Age 15 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total	14,988,197	939,374	139,143	260,696	10,512	29,390	499,633
Females	7,741,170	478,611	71,933	132,753	4,464	13,258	256,203
Never married	24.1%	18.5%	13.0%	18.5%	22.8%	27.5%	19.5%
Married	48.0%	54.7%	57.6%	54.7%	50.9%	47.9%	54.4%
Separated	2.8%	2.1%	1.8%	2.3%	3.1%	3.2%	2.0%
Widowed	11.1%	12.1%	15.2%	11.8%	11.4%	9.5%	11.5%
Divorced	14.0%	12.5%	12.3%	12.7%	11.9%	11.9%	12.6%
Males	7,247,027	460,763	67,210	127,943	6,048	16,132	243,430
Never married	31.3%	25.0%	20.6%	25.4%	33.7%	38.5%	24.8%
Married	52.4%	59.0%	61.8%	59.6%	48.6%	48.2%	58.8%
Separated	2.0%	1.5%	1.6%	1.4%	1.5%	2.3%	1.5%
Widowed	3.1%	3.7%	4.8%	3.4%	2.7%	1.9%	3.6%
Divorced	11.1%	10.8%	11.1%	10.1%	13.5%	9.1%	11.2%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Families and Households

Female-headed households with no husband present account for 9.6% of regional households and approximately 50% of these have dependent children under 18 years old, as shown in Table 17. Hendry County had the highest percentage of female-headed households with no husband present at 15.2%, with almost 60% with children under 18 years old. Male-headed households with no wife present account for 4.4% of the region and 8.2% in Hendry County.

Table 17

Family Households by Presence of Own Children, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total households	7,420,802	482,925	73,370	133,179	4,533	12,025	259,818
Family households	4,835,475	320,076	47,873	89,276	3,039	8,862	171,026
Married-couple family	3,457,149	252,129	39,147	72,152	2,358	6,046	132,426
Percent	46.6%	52.2%	53.4%	54.2%	52.0%	50.3%	51.0%
With own children under 18	1,230,374	67,383	6,976	20,160	645	2,736	36,866
Percent	35.6%	26.7%	17.8%	27.9%	27.4%	45.3%	27.8%
With own children under 6	273,179	14,162	1,285	4,180	122	493	8,082
Percent	7.9%	5.6%	3.3%	5.8%	5.2%	8.2%	6.1%
Female householder (no husband present)	1,005,042	46,561	6,243	11,432	407	1,826	26,653
Percent	13.5%	9.6%	8.5%	8.6%	9.0%	15.2%	10.3%
With own children under 18	530,343	25,869	2,973	6,486	220	1,085	15,105
Percent	52.8%	55.6%	47.6%	56.7%	54.1%	59.4%	56.7%
With own children under 6	105,682	5,212	582	1,194	57	237	3,142
Percent	10.5%	11.2%	9.3%	10.4%	14.0%	13.0%	11.8%
Male householder (no wife present)	373,284	21,386	2,483	5,692	274	990	11,947
Percent	5.0%	4.4%	3.4%	4.3%	6.0%	8.2%	4.6%
With own children under 18	172,008	10,743	1,202	2,793	118	542	6,088
Percent	46.1%	50.2%	48.4%	49.1%	43.1%	54.7%	51.0%
With own children under 6	49,373	3,146	337	789	33	164	1,823
Percent	13.2%	14.7%	13.6%	13.9%	12.0%	16.6%	15.3%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Non-family family households account for approximately one-third of the total households in Southwest Florida. Table 18 shows that non-family households in Southwest Florida were 33.7% of the total households in 2010, accounting for 162,849 individuals. Non-family households include individuals living alone or sharing a living space. In Charlotte, Collier, and Lee Counties, there were more females living alone than males, however, the opposite was found in Glades and Hendry Counties. In Southwest Florida, more females lived alone when compared to men, 74,921 versus 54,461, respectively.

Table 18

Non-Family Households by Presence of Own Children, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Non-family households	2,585,327	162,849	25,497	43,903	1,494	3,163	88,792
Householder living alone	2,021,781	129,382	20,932	35,608	1,169	2,329	69,344
Females	1,139,816	74,921	12,392	21,364	528	1,057	39,580
Females 65 and over	574,253	44,196	8,335	12,769	326	555	22,211
Males	881,965	54,461	8,540	14,244	641	1,272	29,764
Males 65 and over	250,136	21,438	4,057	5,851	301	450	10,779
Householder not living alone	563,546	33,467	4,565	8,295	325	834	19,448

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Married-couple families occupy more than half of the White, Asian, and Hispanic households in Southwest Florida. In 2010, married-couple families occupied more than 50% of the White, Asian, and Hispanic households in Southwest Florida. Black families (37%) and American Indian/Alaskan Natives (41.4%) represent less than 50% of the households in Southwest Florida. See Tables 19–23.

Table 19

White Households by Presence of Own Children and Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White households	5,918,746	427,315	68,061	119,122	3,707	7,889	228,536
Family households	3,775,354	278,320	44,262	78,289	2,462	5,728	147,579
Married-couple family	2,894,592	227,929	36,886	65,480	2,023	4,281	119,259
With own children (under 18 years)	943,950	53,662	6,120	15,990	448	1,645	29,459
With own children (under 6 years)	212,884	11,299	1,128	3,296	88	282	6,505
Male householder (no wife present)	264,070	16,223	2,196	4,195	170	527	9,135
With own children (under 18 years)	120,868	8,060	1,070	2,022	78	286	4,604
With own children (under 6 years)	33,515	2,300	300	535	22	94	1,349
Female householder (no husband present)	616,692	34,168	5,180	8,614	269	920	19,185
With own children (under 18 years)	302,444	17,805	2,384	4,667	132	498	10,124
With own children (under 6 years)	58,759	3,466	474	830	35	98	2,029
Non-family households	2,143,392	148,995	23,799	40,833	1,245	2,161	80,957
Householder (living alone)	1,682,549	119,486	19,545	33,628	1,004	1,654	63,655
Householder (not living alone)	460,843	29,509	4,254	7,205	241	507	17,302

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 20
Black Households by Presence of Own Children
by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Black households	1,005,589	27,413	3,199	5,987	283	1,514	16,430
Family households	697,950	20,151	2,155	4,625	181	1,073	12,117
Married-couple family	321,584	10,139	1,256	2,508	95	465	5,815
With own children (under 18 years)	150,770	4,986	405	1,488	32	196	2,865
With own children (under 6 years)	27,750	925	53	298	6	28	540
Male householder (no wife present)	70,046	2,175	161	569	21	111	1,313
With own children (under 18 years)	32,565	1,131	77	296	7	52	699
With own children (under 6 years)	9,733	323	21	82	2	11	207
Female householder (no husband present)	306,320	7,837	738	1,548	65	497	4,989
With own children (under 18 years)	177,959	4,902	400	937	40	277	3,248
With own children (under 6 years)	36,721	1,028	67	186	10	61	704
Non-Family households	307,639	7,262	1,044	1,362	102	441	4,313
Householder (living alone)	247,716	5,772	889	977	85	374	3,447
Householder (not living alone)	59,923	1,490	155	385	17	67	866

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 21

American Indian/Alaska Native Households by Presence of Own Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
American Indian/Alaskan Households	25,704	1,755	191	371	192	250	751
Family households	16,807	1,152	114	250	139	156	493
Married-couple family	10,727	726	77	164	88	66	331
With own children (under 18 years)	4,538	363	17	99	52	43	152
With own children (under 6 years)	878	79	4	19	6	11	39
Male householder (no wife present)	2,055	145	7	28	13	25	72
With own children (under 18 years)	969	77	2	17	7	17	34
With own children (under 6 years)	286	18	1	5	1	3	8
Female householder (no husband present)	4,025	281	30	58	38	65	90
With own children (under 18 years)	2,277	177	14	32	25	43	63
With own children (under 6 years)	436	35	2	6	6	9	12
Non-family households	8,897	603	77	121	53	94	258
Householder (living alone)	6,267	415	56	81	43	77	158
Householder (not living alone)	2,630	188	21	40	10	17	100

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 22
Asian Households by Presence of Own
Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Asian households	145,808	4,581	622	1,158	12	82	2,707
Family households	108,028	3,434	449	894	7	58	2,026
Married-couple family	87,152	2,752	359	726	7	50	1,610
With own children (under 18 years)	46,154	1,302	155	331	4	31	781
With own children (under 6 years)	12,431	336	42	85	3	7	199
Male householder (no wife present)	6,772	205	28	51	0	2	124
With own children (under 18 years)	2,391	95	14	14	0	0	67
With own children (under 6 years)	650	29	3	3	0	0	23
Female householder, (no husband present)	14,104	477	62	117	0	6	292
With own children (under 18 years)	6,752	272	28	73	0	3	168
With own children (under 6 years)	1,256	50	1	19	0	0	30
Non-family households	37,780	1,147	173	264	5	24	681
Householder (living alone)	27,103	881	135	198	1	18	529
Householder (not living alone)	10,677	266	38	66	4	6	152

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Table 23

Hispanic Households by Presence of Own Children by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Hispanic Households	1,333,248	62,173	2,830	22,076	617	4,694	31,956
Family households	998,418	49,956	2,150	17,985	469	3,811	25,541
Married-couple family	651,838	33,133	1,489	12,117	290	2,548	16,689
With own children (under 18 years)	334,775	20,422	666	7,682	198	1,618	10,258
With own children (under 6 years)	73,913	4,184	129	1,560	40	288	2,167
Male householder (no wife present)	106,122	6,526	219	2,307	109	585	3,306
With own children (under 18 years)	48,950	3,483	126	1,191	45	339	1,782
With own children (under 6 years)	15,906	1,219	47	425	14	111	622
Female householder, (no husband present)	240,458	10,297	442	3,561	70	678	5,546
With own children (under 18 years)	133,797	6,998	277	2,382	48	486	3,805
With own children (under 6 years)	25,882	1,504	53	493	9	107	842
Non-family households	334,830	12,217	680	4,091	148	883	6,415
Householder (living alone)	238,056	7,528	506	2,487	73	483	3,979
Householder (not living alone)	96,774	4,689	174	1,604	75	400	2,436

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Unmarried-partner households represent a small number of households in Southwest Florida.

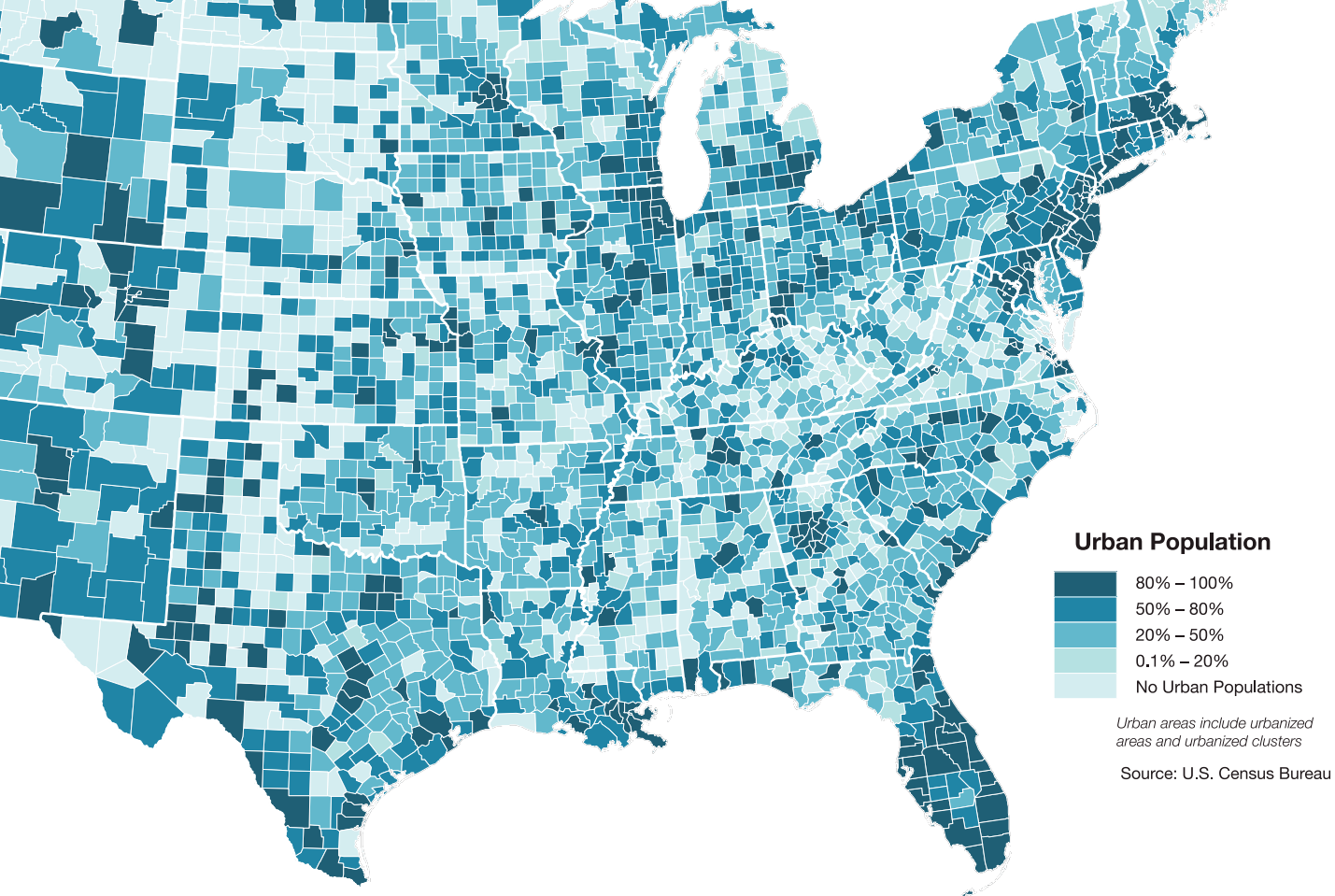
In 2010, more than 7% of households were considered unmarried-partner households in Southwest Florida. Of that percentage, approximately 32,688 individuals were women. As defined by Census 2010, unmarried-partner households include “Male householder with female partner”, “Female householder with male partner,” and “Female householder with female partner,” as shown in Table 24.

Table 24

Unmarried-Partner Households, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Households	7,420,802	482,925	73,370	133,179	4,533	12,025	259,818
Unmarried-partner households	544,907	34,496	4,733	8,233	342	1,120	20,068
Percent of total households	7.3%	7.1%	6.5%	6.2%	7.5%	9.3%	7.7%
Male householder and male partner	34,057	1,808	214	494	15	43	1,042
Percent of total households	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%
Male householder and female partner	248,502	16,804	2,333	4,097	186	566	9,622
Percent of total households	3.3%	3.5%	3.2%	3.1%	4.1%	4.7%	3.7%
Female householder and female partner	31,544	1,852	242	456	21	37	1,096
Percent of total households	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%
Female householder and male partner	230,804	14,032	1,944	3,186	120	474	8,308
Percent of total households	3.1%	2.9%	2.6%	2.4%	2.6%	3.9%	3.2%
All other households	3,418,746	196,300	29,490	52,794	1,833	4,859	107,324
Percent of total households	46.1%	40.6%	40.2%	39.6%	40.4%	40.4%	41.3%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1



Urban and Rural Populations

Agriculture provides support for many Southwest Florida households. In the region, 12.6% of households live in rural areas in 2000, as shown in Table 25. More current information regarding the population living in urban areas by gender is not scheduled for release until September 2012.

Table 25
Population Living in Urban Areas, 2000

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	15,982,378	880,678	141,627	251,377	10,576	36,210	440,888
Percent living in urban areas	89.3%	87.4%	90.6%	89.7%	26.4%	63.7%	88.5%
Percent living in rural areas	10.7%	12.6%	9.4%	10.3%	73.6%	36.3%	11.5%
Total females	8,194,636	446,009	73,976	125,759	4,812	16,192	225,270
Percent living in urban areas	89.8%	88.1%	91.5%	90.2%	23.3%	67.6%	88.7%
Percent living in rural areas	10.2%	11.9%	8.5%	9.8%	76.7%	32.4%	11.3%
Total males	7,787,742	434,669	67,651	125,618	5,764	20,018	215,618
Percent living in urban areas	88.8%	86.6%	89.7%	89.1%	29.0%	60.6%	88.2%
Percent living in rural areas	11.2%	15.4%	10.3%	10.9%	71.0%	39.4%	11.8%

Source: U.S. Census 2000, 1 year Summary File 4

Veteran Status

There are over 6,500 female veterans living in Southwest Florida. Female veterans ages 65 and under account for 1.3% of the population as compared with 14.6% for men. See Table 26.

Table 26
Armed Forces Enlistment and Veteran Status

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female							
Total 18 to 64	5,747,810	321,637	42,883	87,915	2,991	10,489	177,359
In Armed Forces (16 yrs+)	9,109	–	–	–	–	–	–
Veteran	91,490	4,186	817	815	86	107	2,361
Percent veteran	1.6%	1.3%	1.9%	0.9%	2.9%	1.0%	1.3%
65 years and over	1,744,872	144,226	27,557	41,498	1,289	2,105	71,777
Veteran	26,061	2,403	473	542	–	9	1,379
Percent veteran	1.5%	1.7%	1.7%	1.3%	0.0%	0.4%	1.9%
Male							
Total 18 to 64	5,557,566	316,175	40,474	86,267	4,514	13,193	171,727
In Armed Forces (16 yrs+)	49,990	420	60	161	–	–	199
Veteran	802,154	46,057	9,160	9,551	483	708	26,155
Percent veteran	14.4%	14.6%	22.6%	11.1%	10.7%	5.4%	15.2%
65 years and over	1,389,233	130,848	24,772	38,049	1,345	2,218	64,464
Veteran	752,583	77,193	15,531	21,627	705	987	38,343
Percent veteran	54.2%	59.0%	62.7%	56.8%	52.4%	44.5%	59.5%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

More to Learn about Population and Diversity

1. What is the gender mix in urban and rural communities?
2. What are the “migration” patterns of females?
3. What is the number and distribution of lesbians and bisexual women living in Southwest Florida?
4. What is the prevalence of same-sex marriages and same-sex couples living together?

The 2010 Census does not provide information about sexual orientation or same-sex marriage. Same-sex marriages are categorized in the 2010 Census as “unmarried-partner,” and children with gay or lesbian parents are categorized as having a single parent. However, the Obama Administration Task Force is working to change this limiting factor in order to provide more accurate data. Updates may be available from: http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/census_2010/2010_census_faqs_updated.pdf

Assets to Build on and Opportunities for Change

Populations by County

Assets

Population of 1,152,276 in Southwest Florida (Table 5).

Opportunities

Hispanics are expected to become a larger part of the overall population.

Racial and Ethnic Diversity

Assets

16.2% of the female population is foreign-born (Table 2)

There are 107,126 Hispanic women and girls in Southwest Florida (Table 8).

There are 43,812 Black women in Southwest Florida (Table 5).

There are 8,020 Asian women and girls in Southwest Florida (Table 7).

There are 2,344 American Indian Alaskan Native women in Southwest Florida (Table 6).

Opportunities

40.2% of foreign-born women are naturalized Citizens.

Businesses, organizations, and government will need to adapt to the demographics of the region.

The Black population is the largest minority group in Southwest Florida.

Asian women and girls are a key part of the overall region's population.

American Indian women and girls are an important part of the regional population.

Age of Population

Assets

There are 152,756 women over age 65 in Southwest Florida (Table 11).

Opportunities

The large number of women over age 65 creates needs as well as resources.

Marital and Family Status

Opportunities

Divorce rates were highest in Collier and Lee Counties at 12.7% and 12.6%, respectively.

Urban and Rural Populations

Opportunities

Hendry and Glades Counties have 32% and 77% of women and girls living in rural areas where access to certain services and education are more difficult.

Veteran Status

Opportunities

Over 6,500 women veterans live in Southwest Florida and may need assistance in education and job placement.



Employment and Income

This section of the report examines information on the employment status and income of women and girls in Southwest Florida. Employment and income have a great impact on both the status and autonomy of women. The topics discussed in this section include:

- Southwest Florida economy (overview)
- Occupations and employment status
 - Labor force participation
 - Unemployment
 - Occupations
 - Industries and class of workers
- Earnings and wages
- Retirement
- Poverty
- Public assistance
- Child care and support

The Southwest Florida Economy

In 2006, the local economy was slowing but unemployment rates for women and men in the region were low given the housing boom and fast-paced economic growth. Between 2006 and 2010, overall unemployment rates for women and men rose substantially. However, unemployment rates for women were considerably lower than those for men in 2010 due to the slowdown in construction-related industries, which traditionally employ more men than women. Southwest Florida unemployment trends are shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Unemployment by Gender in
Southwest Florida, 2006–2010

	2006	2010	Percentage Change 2006–2010
Charlotte County			
Female	3.6%	10.0%	6.4%
Male	3.1%	14.8%	11.8%
Collier County			
Female	2.9%	10.6%	7.6%
Male	3.0%	12.5%	9.4%
Lee County			
Female	2.8%	11.5%	8.7%
Male	2.9%	13.5%	10.6%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 1

Charlotte County reported a net job loss of 2,700 with the largest job loss in construction, mining, and logging of 1,800 jobs, as shown in Table 2 and Figure 1. Construction-related jobs fell by 41.9% from December 2007 to December 2011. Financial activities and the government sectors lost 600 jobs. Education and health care services had the highest net job gain of 700. Overall, the net job loss for Charlotte County was 4.9% for the period December 2007 to December 2011.

Table 2

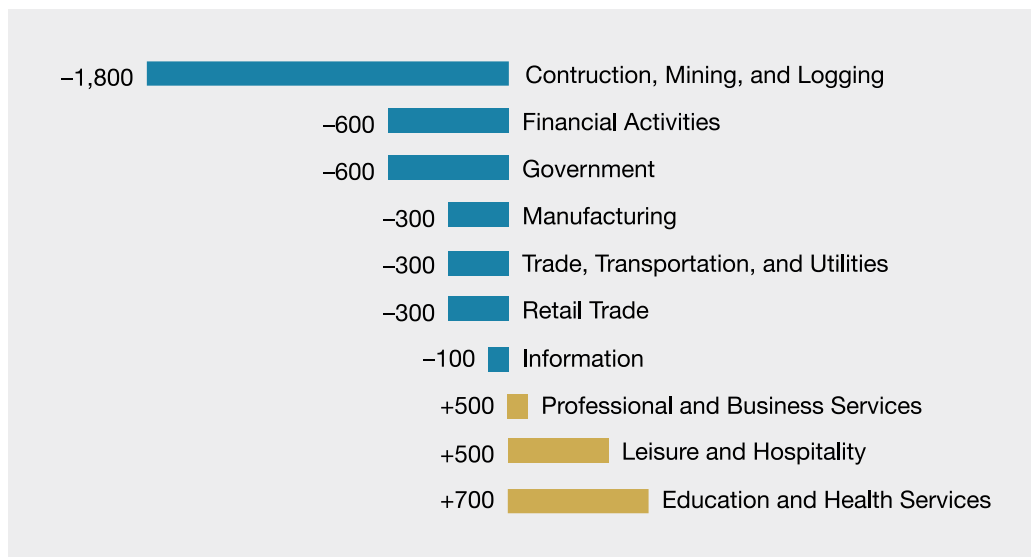
**Charlotte County Employment Change by Business Sector
December 2007 to December 2011**

	Number employed		Change in	Percent
	Dec 2007	Dec 2011	employment	change
Construction, mining, and logging	4,300	2,500	-1,800	-41.9%
Financial activities	2,400	1,800	-600	-25.0%
Government	6,600	6,000	-600	-9.1%
Manufacturing	900	600	-300	-33.3%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	10,400	10,100	-300	-2.9%
Retail trade	9,200	8,900	-300	-3.3%
Information	600	500	-100	-16.7%
Wholesale trade	700	700	0	0.0%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	500	500	0	0.0%
Other services	2,100	2,100	0	0.0%
Professional and business services	3,500	3,600	100	2.9%
Leisure and hospitality	5,900	6,400	500	8.5%
Education and health services	8,500	9,200	700	8.2%
Total	55,600	52,900	-2,700	-4.9%

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, CES

Figure 1

**Changes in Charlotte County Employment by Business
Sector, December 2007–December 2011**



Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

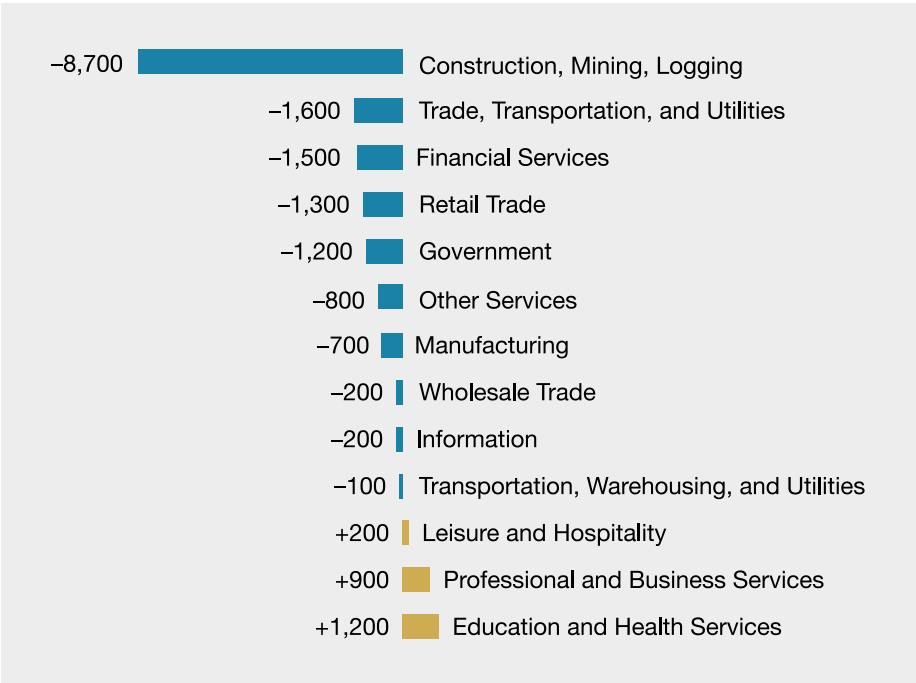
Collier County reported a net job loss of 14,000 with the largest net job loss in construction, mining and logging of 8,700 jobs, as shown in Table 3 and Figure 2. Construction-related jobs fell by 50.3% from December 2007 to December 2011. Trade, transportation, and utilities lost 1,600 jobs; financial activities lost 1,500 jobs; retail trade lost 1,300 jobs; and the government sector lost 1,200 jobs. Education and health services gained 1,200 jobs from December 2007 to December 2011. Overall, the net job loss was 9.0% for the period December 2007 to December 2011.

Table 3
Collier County Employment Change by Business
Sector, December 2007 to December 2011

	Number employed		Change in	Percent
	Dec 2007	Dec 2011	employment	change
Construction, mining, and logging	17,300	8,600	-8,700	-50.3%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	25,200	23,600	-1,600	-6.3%
Financial activities	8,200	6,700	-1,500	-18.3%
Retail trade	20,000	18,700	-1,300	-6.5%
Government	14,400	13,200	-1,200	-8.3%
Other services	6,300	5,500	-800	-12.7%
Manufacturing	3,200	2,500	-700	-21.9%
Wholesale trade	3,500	3,300	-200	-5.7%
Information	1,700	1,500	-200	-11.8%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	1,700	1,600	-100	-5.9%
Leisure and hospitality	24,300	24,500	200	0.8%
Professional and business services	12,500	13,400	900	7.2%
Education and health services	17,100	18,300	1,200	7.0%
Total	155,400	141,400	-14,000	-9.0%

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, CES

Figure 2
Changes in Collier County Employment by Business Sector, December 2007–December 2011



Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

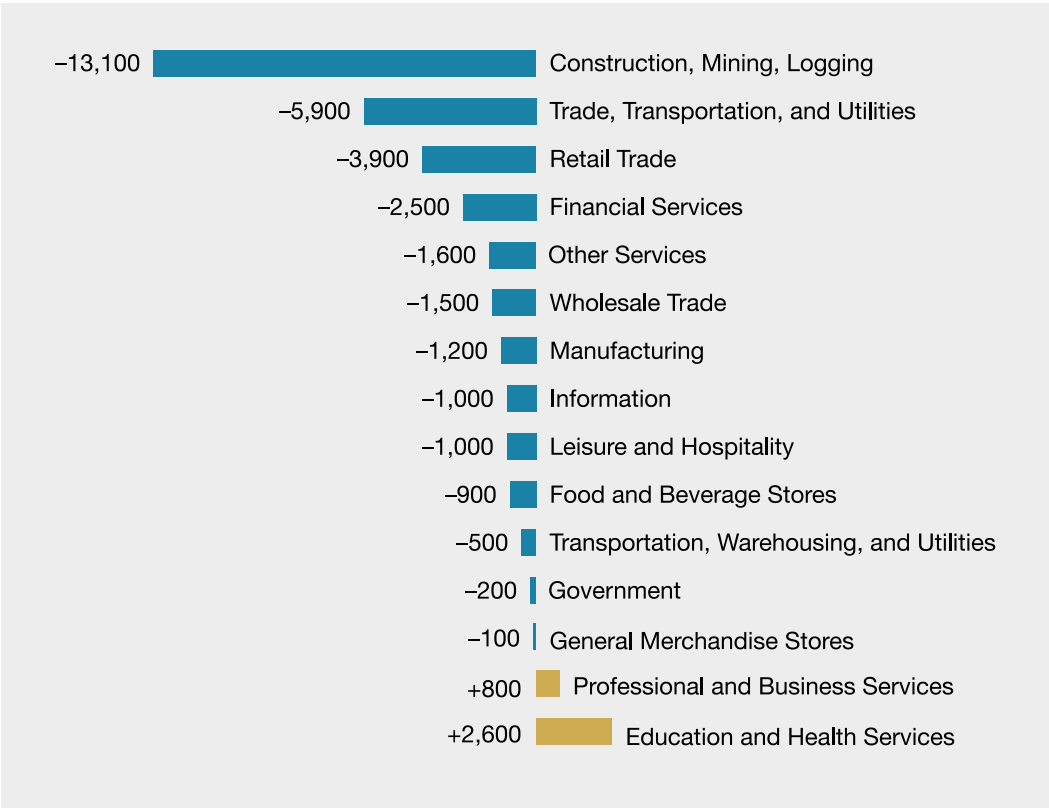
Lee County reported a net job loss of 30,000 with the largest net job loss in construction, mining, and logging of 13,100 jobs, as shown in Table 4 and Figure 3. Construction related jobs fell by 44.7% from December 2007 to December 2011. Trade, transportation, and utilities lost 5,900 jobs; retail trade lost 3,900 jobs; financial activities lost 2,500 jobs; other services lost 1,600 jobs, and wholesale trade lost 1,500 jobs. Education and health services gained 2,600 jobs from December 2007 to December 2011. Overall, the net job loss was 10.2% for the period December 2007 to December 2011.

Table 4
Lee County Employment Change by Business
Sector, December 2007 to December 2011

	Number employed		Change in	Percent
	Dec 2007	Dec 2011	employment	change
Construction, mining, and logging	29,300	16,200	-13,100	-44.7%
Trade, transportation, and utilities	49,600	43,700	-5,900	-11.9%
Retail trade	38,100	34,200	-3,900	-10.2%
Financial activities	12,900	10,400	-2,500	-19.4%
Other services	10,300	8,700	-1,600	-15.5%
Wholesale trade	7,400	5,900	-1,500	-20.3%
Manufacturing	5,900	4,700	-1,200	-20.3%
Information	3,900	2,900	-1,000	-25.6%
Leisure and hospitality	31,100	30,100	-1,000	-3.2%
Food and beverage stores	7,500	6,600	-900	-12.0%
Transportation, warehousing, and utilities	4,100	3,600	-500	-12.2%
Government	37,300	37,100	-200	-0.5%
General merchandise stores	6,600	6,500	-100	-1.5%
Professional and business services	27,000	27,800	800	3.0%
Education and health services	21,800	24,400	2,600	11.9%
Total	292,800	262,800	-30,000	-10.2%

Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity, CES

Figure 3
Changes in Lee County Employment by Business Sector, December 2007–December 2011



Source: Florida Department of Economic Opportunity

Occupations and Employment Status

It is essential for women to make career choices that balance personal goals and family needs against the conditions and wages in the job market. The labor force participation rate has been one of the key measures of change over the last fifty years, and has shown that women are increasingly choosing to be active participants in the workforce. More and more women are entering careers that have traditionally been male dominated. This section examines women’s labor force participation rates, unemployment rates, occupations, and industries, and class of workers.

Labor Force Participation

The labor force participation rate measures the amount of individuals ages 16 and older who are employed or unemployed and looking for work as a percentage of the working-age population.

Women in Southwest Florida participate in the labor force at lower rates than women in the State of Florida. The labor force participation rate for women in Southwest Florida in 2010 was shown to be 47.7%, which was significantly lower than the labor force participation rate of 56.3% for the State of Florida, as shown in Table 5. The lowest labor force participation rate for women was in Charlotte County with 43.6%, while the highest labor force participation rate for women was in Hendry County with 55.9%. The region's elevated population of retirees was partly responsible for this difference, although high unemployment and a lack of employment opportunities could also result in lower participation rates.

Men in Southwest Florida participate in the labor force at lower rates than men in the State of Florida. Lower labor force participation rates for men could be expected due to the attractiveness of the area for retirees, and due to high regional unemployment levels.

Table 5
Labor Force Participation Rates, Age 16 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females in labor force	4,439,662	233,486	31,624	65,296	2,012	7,444	127,110
Percent of total females	56.3%	47.7%	43.6%	48.0%	45.6%	55.9%	48.3%
Males in labor force	4,818,668	272,313	32,071	75,574	2,924	10,385	151,359
Percent of total males	65.2%	58.0%	47.5%	58.0%	46.2%	64.0%	60.8%

Source: American Community Survey 2010

Black females show the highest labor force participation rate in Southwest Florida. According to Table 6, the labor force participation rate for Black females was 65.7% and the unemployment rate was 12.0%. In contrast, the labor force participation rate for White females was much less at 47.7%, while the unemployment rate was only slightly less than 8.2%. Hendry County reported the highest labor force participation rate for White women at 55.7%. Overall, American Indian/Alaska Native females had some of the highest unemployment rates in 2010.

Table 6
Women's Labor Force Participation and Unemployment
Rates by Race/Ethnicity, Age 16 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White females	6,026,174	419,334	65,902	117,969	3,764	9,322	222,377
In labor force	54.2%	47.7%	41.9%	47.0%	41.1%	55.7%	49.5%
Unemployed	10.1%	8.2%	10.5%	7.2%	11.8%	12.4%	7.9%
Black females	1,140,827	31,458	3,574	7,594	333	1,868	18,089
In labor force	65.3%	65.7%	57.2%	66.2%	68.2%	60.2%	67.6%
Unemployed	15.4%	12.0%	7.9%	5.1%	11.5%	20.6%	14.8%
American Indian/Alaskan Native females	20,852	1,104	161	256	90	68	529
In labor force	56.8%	55.7%	27.3%	70.7%	75.6%	47.1%	54.8%
Unemployed	20.0%	38.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.6%	22.1%
Asian females	191,756	6,329	920	1,486	67	94	3,762
In labor force	61.0%	57.5%	56.6%	56.4%	70.1%	71.3%	57.6%
Unemployed	8.9%	5.4%	9.6%	2.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.0%
Hispanic females	1,492,869	70,922	3,244	25,922	681	5,241	35,834
In labor force	59.5%	58.6%	50.1%	59.1%	52.6%	60.6%	58.8%
Unemployed	12.6%	12.9%	15.6%	9.7%	21.8%	15.7%	14.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

Unemployment

The unemployment rate is a measure of the percentage of individuals in the labor force without jobs or who have actively sought work within the past four weeks. Discouraged workers are people who have dropped out of the labor force because they have given up looking for employment; therefore, discouraged workers are not included in the unemployment rate.

More men than women are unemployed in Southwest Florida. The unemployment rate for women in Southwest Florida in 2010 was 13.1%, which was slightly lower than the rate of 15.6% for men. The unemployment rate was also higher for men in Southwest Florida's three largest counties as shown in Table 7. These estimates are based on the American Community Survey, which tends to show higher unemployment rates than the more commonly-used Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS) collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table 7
Unemployment Rates for Persons Age 20–64, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females in labor force	4,060,311	209,114	28,100	59,013	1,891	7,318	112,792
Unemployment rate	11.6%	13.1%	15.1%	10.8%	11.1%	16.4%	13.7%
Males in labor force	4,376,610	242,066	27,530	67,370	2,625	8,956	135,585
Unemployment rate	13.5%	15.6%	16.9%	13.5%	6.9%	10.1%	17.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

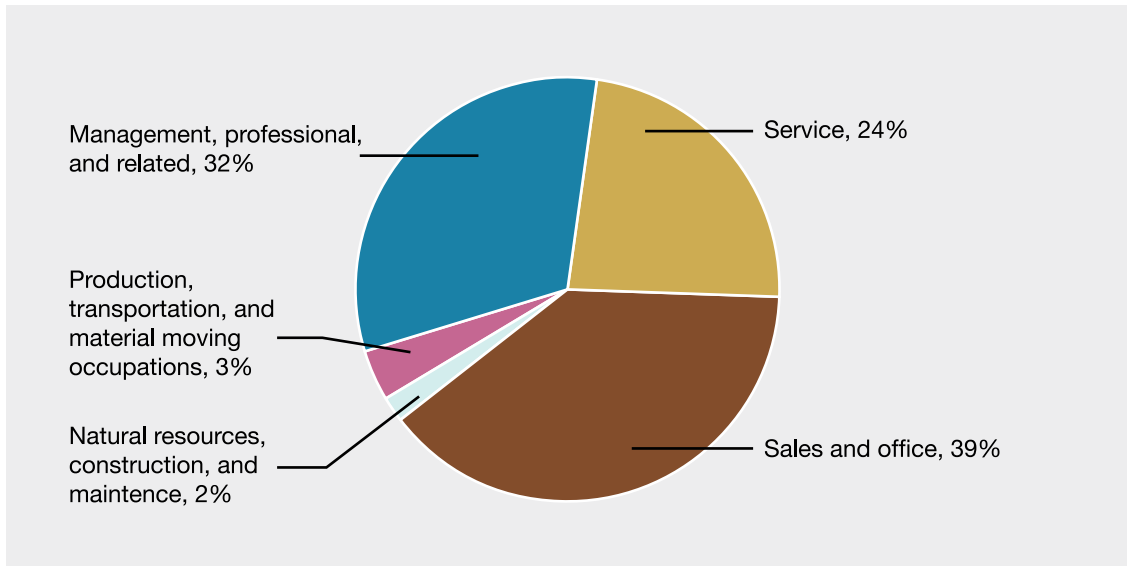
Occupations

Over two-thirds of women in Southwest Florida are employed in management and professional fields, or sales and office fields. In Southwest Florida, approximately 71% of women in the labor force were employed in management, professional, and related occupations (32%), or in sales and office occupations (39%), in 2010, as shown in Figure 4 and Table 8.

A small percentage of women hold positions in construction, extraction, and maintenance in Southwest Florida. Less than 4% of women in Southwest Florida held positions in construction, extraction, and maintenance in 2010, whereas 11.8% of men held positions in these fields, as shown in Table 8.

More women hold positions in management, professional, and related fields than men in Southwest Florida. The percentage of women in management, professional, and related occupations in Southwest Florida was 32.0% in 2010, while men in the same fields accounted for 25.4%. In Hendry County, women held more positions in management, professional, and related occupations at 22.0% when compared with men at 9.2%.

Figure 4
Distribution of Southwest Florida Women Across Occupations, 2010



Source: American Community Survey 2010

Table 8
Distribution of Women and Men Across Occupations, Southwest Florida

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	3,883,798	201,829	27,266	58,250	1,805	6,331	108,177
Management, professional, and related occupations	35.8%	32.0%	33.6%	31.1%	23.3%	22.0%	32.8%
Service occupations	21.5%	23.3%	20.9%	25.2%	38.1%	26.6%	22.6%
Sales and office occupations	37.1%	38.9%	40.3%	37.5%	27.1%	41.5%	39.3%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	1.1%	1.9%	1.1%	2.6%	8.5%	4.5%	1.5%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	4.3%	3.8%	4.2%	3.6%	3.0%	5.4%	3.8%
Males							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	4,091,147	227,907	25,780	65,424	2,741	8,999	124,963
Management, professional, and related occupations	30.1%	25.4%	24.0%	26.8%	16.0%	9.2%	26.2%
Service occupations	16.7%	18.6%	17.1%	21.3%	14.5%	14.4%	17.9%
Sales and office occupations	20.2%	19.0%	22.1%	17.5%	7.1%	8.8%	20.1%
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	19.4%	25.2%	22.1%	24.8%	42.5%	51.6%	24.0%
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	13.6%	11.8%	14.6%	9.8%	20.0%	15.9%	11.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

More women hold positions in management, business, science and related fields than men in

Southwest Florida. Table 9 details the distribution of women and men in management and professional occupations for 2010. Approximately 133,000 positions in the fields of management, business, science, and related occupations exist in Southwest Florida. According to the table, women held 69,000 of those positions whereas men held 64,000.

Women in management, science, and related fields hold more positions than men in educa-

tion and healthcare occupations in Southwest Florida. In 2010, 19.5% of women in management, science, and related fields held positions in education, training, and library occupations, which was significantly higher when compared to 6.9% for men. Women that held positions in healthcare practitioner and technical occupations accounted for 26.6% of the management, science, and related occupations, whereas men accounted for only 10.2%. Community and social services occupations were comprised of 4.4% of all women and 3.0% of all men.

A larger percentage of men than women hold management positions in Southwest Florida.

In 2010, 25.5% of women in management, science, and related fields held positions in management occupations, which was well below the percentage of management positions held by men at 45.3%.

Table 9

Distribution of Southwest Florida Women and Men in Management and Professional Occupations, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females							
Management, business, science, and related occupations	1,409,217	69,171	9,344	18,558	426	1,396	39,447
Management occupations	21.1%	25.5%	19.2%	37.2%	10.6%	22.1%	21.7%
Community and social services occupations	5.0%	4.4%	5.2%	3.4%	17.1%	10.5%	4.3%
Education, training, and library occupations	23.2%	19.5%	23.1%	11.0%	46.7%	31.8%	22.0%
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	23.2%	26.6%	32.5%	25.9%	9.6%	18.0%	26.1%
Males							
Management, business, science, and related occupations	1,369,182	64,118	7,078	19,786	446	830	35,978
Management occupations	34.0%	45.3%	47.0%	45.9%	51.3%	55.3%	44.3%
Community and social services occupations	3.3%	3.0%	3.2%	2.7%	8.7%	4.3%	3.1%
Education, training, and library occupations	7.8%	6.9%	9.5%	6.4%	15.0%	9.6%	6.5%
Healthcare practitioners and technical occupations	8.6%	10.2%	15.9%	9.7%	12.3%	2.3%	9.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

More women hold positions in sales and office occupations than men in Southwest Florida. Table 10 shows that in 2010, women held 77,160 sales and office occupations, which was substantially higher when compared to 43,876 for men (excluding Hendry County). More women in Southwest Florida were employed in office and administrative support positions at 55.5% when compared to men at 39.7%.

Conversely, more men were employed in sales and related occupations at 60.3% when compared to women at 44.4%.

Table 10
Distribution of Women and Men in Sales and Office Occupations, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females							
Sales and office occupations total	1,385,005	77,160	10,279	23,140	488	–	43,253
Sales and related	37.7%	44.4%	31.8%	52.7%	48.0%	–	43.0%
Office and administrative support	62.3%	55.5%	68.1%	47.3%	48.0%	–	57.0%
Males							
Sales and office occupations total	841,691	43,876	5,486	12,134	194	–	26,062
Sales and related	61.5%	60.3%	57.8%	62.3%	41.8%	–	60.1%
Office and administrative support	38.5%	39.7%	42.3%	37.7%	58.2%	–	40.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008–2010, 3-year estimates

Industries and Class of Workers

Women in Southwest Florida are historically employed in lower-paying occupations than men.

Women outnumber men in education, health, and other social services industries at 31.5% versus 8.4% for men. See Tables 11 and 12.

Table 11

Distribution of Women Employed by Industries, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	3,833,798	201,949	27,266	58,250	1,805	6,451	108,177
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	0.5%	0.9%	0.0%	1.5%	10.1%	6.5%	0.3%
Construction	1.4%	1.6%	0.7%	2.1%	2.0%	1.3%	1.5%
Manufacturing	3.4%	2.1%	2.5%	2.5%	0.6%	1.2%	2.0%
Wholesale trade	2.0%	1.6%	2.1%	2.7%	1.1%	2.8%	0.8%
Retail trade	14.0%	18.2%	12.1%	22.4%	11.5%	17.2%	17.7%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	2.7%	2.6%	1.3%	1.5%	0.9%	1.6%	3.6%
Information	1.7%	1.5%	1.2%	1.6%	0.4%	0.0%	1.6%
Finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing	8.7%	7.2%	7.5%	7.5%	2.7%	5.1%	7.2%
Professional, scientific, management and 7.8% administrative services	1.1%	9.4%	12.3%	8.5%	2.4%	4.1%	9.5%
Education, health, social and other services	33.5%	31.5%	40.8%	27.1%	24.8%	30.4%	31.6%
Public administration	4.6%	4.8%	7.4%	3.5%	20.2%	10.8%	4.2%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 12

Distribution of Men Employed by Industries, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Male							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	4,091,146	227,927	25,780	65,424	2,741	9,019	124,963
Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, and mining	1.9%	4.0%	0.2%	2.7%	27.4%	47.9%	1.7%
Construction	11.5%	13.7%	12.7%	15.2%	21.5%	8.3%	13.3%
Manufacturing	7.4%	4.9%	6.5%	5.5%	1.8%	3.2%	4.5%
Wholesale trade	3.9%	3.3%	1.9%	4.5%	3.1%	0.8%	3.1%
Retail trade	13.3%	14.3%	21.8%	13.2%	6.5%	7.9%	13.9%
Transportation and warehousing, and utilities	7.5%	5.7%	4.8%	2.9%	13.0%	4.9%	7.3%
Information	2.3%	1.6%	0.8%	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%
Finance, insurance, real estate and rental and leasing	6.7%	6.0%	5.9%	6.3%	2.6%	1.5%	6.2%
Professional, scientific, management and administrative services	13.6%	14.7%	13.1%	16.1%	3.1%	5.9%	15.1%
Education, health, social and other services	10.2%	8.4%	8.6%	7.9%	5.1%	3.7%	8.9%
Public administration	5.4%	4.9%	7.7%	4.2%	7.4%	5.0%	4.7%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Fewer women are self-employed in their own incorporated business than men in Southwest Florida. Only 5.2% of women are self-employed in their own incorporated businesses as compared with 11.2% of men in Southwest Florida. In 2010, women were far more likely than men to work in the non-profit or governmental sectors. The rate of women working in non-profit industries in Southwest Florida was 9.2%, nearly three times the rate for men at 3.3%. Also, 13.4% of women were government workers, whereas only 10.5% of men were government workers. See Table 13.

Table 13
Distribution of Women and Men by Class of Workers, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	3,880,760	202,010	27,251	58,271	1,803	6,455	108,230
Employee of private company	67.5%	67.4%	65.5%	67.5%	57.8%	61.1%	68.4%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	3.5%	4.9%	3.9%	7.4%	1.5%	0.5%	4.1%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	8.6%	9.2%	10.9%	10.4%	2.3%	5.6%	8.5%
Government workers	15.2%	13.4%	16.0%	9.0%	33.9%	25.2%	14.0%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	5.0%	5.2%	6.9%	5.6%	4.5%	7.6%	4.5%
Unpaid family workers	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Male							
Total civilians employed aged 16 and over	4,094,185	227,866	25,795	65,403	2,743	9,015	124,910
Employee of private company	89.4%	66.8%	69.1%	64.7%	68.3%	82.0%	66.3%
Self-employed in own incorporated business	8.2%	11.2%	8.3%	14.2%	3.3%	2.2%	11.0%
Private not-for-profit wage and salary workers	4.2%	3.3%	1.7%	4.1%	2.5%	2.0%	3.3%
Government workers	11.8%	10.5%	14.0%	7.8%	17.3%	10.7%	11.0%
Self-employed workers in own not incorporated business	6.9%	8.0%	6.9%	9.2%	8.6%	3.1%	8.0%
Unpaid family workers	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008–2010, 3-year estimates

Women in Southwest Florida are more likely to be part-time or seasonal workers than men. In Southwest Florida, 74.2% of women were part-time or seasonal employees in 2010 as compared with 66.0% of men, as shown in Table 14. Women tend to be employed as part-time workers more than men for various reasons such as family responsibilities or being underemployed.

Table 14
Full-Time/Year-Round and Part-Time/Seasonal
Workers Age 16 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female workers	7,914,279	491,152	73,035	136,381	4,464	13,291	263,981
Worked full-time/ year-round	2,527,703	126,476	17,576	37,305	1,443	4,631	65,521
Percent full-time/ year-round	31.9%	25.8%	25.1%	27.4%	32.3%	34.8%	24.8%
Percent part-time/ seasonal	68.1%	74.2%	74.9%	72.6%	67.7%	65.2%	75.2%
Male workers	7,413,703	469,801	67,224	131,069	6,048	16,179	249,281
Worked full-time/ year-round	3,048,823	159,756	16,755	47,460	2,050	4,608	88,883
Percent full-time/ year-round	41.1%	34.0%	24.9%	35.5%	33.9%	28.5%	35.7%
Percent part-time/ seasonal	58.9%	66.0%	75.1%	64.5%	66.1%	71.5%	64.3%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Earnings and Wages

Per capita personal income levels are highest in Collier County and lowest in Hendry County. Most counties have experienced per capita personal income increases since 1989, as shown in Table 15.

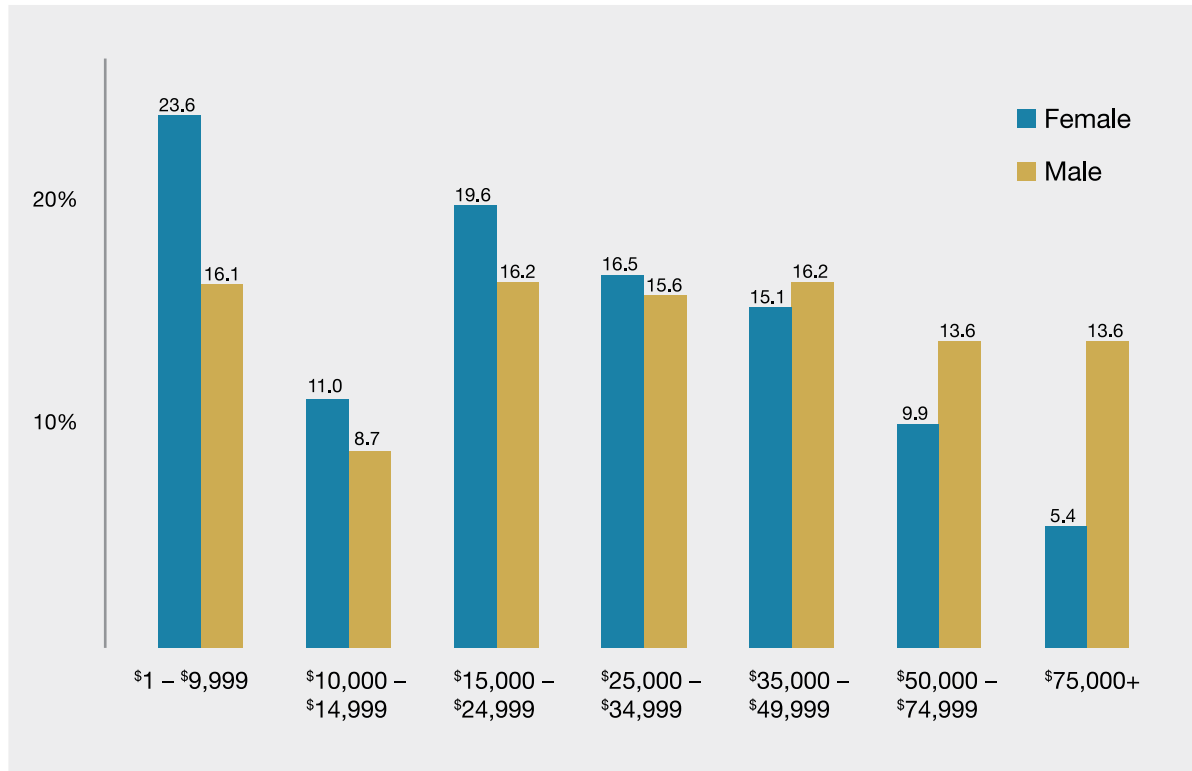
Table 15
Personal Income per Capita, 2009

	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Personal income per capita in 2009 prices					
2009	\$35,858	\$60,049	\$35,401	\$26,462	\$40,750
1999	\$31,637	\$49,249	\$20,620	\$25,452	\$35,656
1989	\$30,625	\$46,033	\$20,740	\$26,493	\$33,888
Percent change in person income per capita					
Between 1999 and 2009	13.3%	21.9%	71.7%	4.0%	14.3%
Between 1989 and 2009	17.1%	30.4%	70.7%	–0.1%	20.2%

Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

Women tend to have lower incomes than men in Southwest Florida. Figure 5 shows that there were more women with incomes below \$35,000 than men in 2010, and that only 5.4% of women earned incomes over \$75,000 as compared with men at 13.6%.

Figure 5
Distribution of Earnings for Southwest Florida Population, 2010



Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Women tend to have lower median annual earnings than men. Table 16 shows that Lee County’s median annual earnings for women were 82.4% of earnings for men, whereas Collier County’s median annual earnings for women were 88.0% of earnings for men. In Hendry County, the median annual earnings for women was unusual since it was higher for women than men with an earnings wage ratio of 123.7%. Black women tended to have higher median incomes than Black men, with Black women earning more than Black men in Charlotte, Collier, Glades, and Lee Counties. Collier County shows the highest median annual earnings for American Indian/Alaskan Native men at \$40,056, and the lowest median annual earnings for the Hispanic population. Hispanic men earned \$21,347, while Hispanic women earned \$18,631.

Table 16
Median Annual Earnings for Full-Time Employees
by Race/Ethnicity and Gender

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total population	\$26,045	\$111,132	\$22,041	\$24,879	\$21,916	\$18,098	\$24,198
All males	\$29,480	\$119,347	\$25,616	\$26,021	\$24,943	\$16,518	\$26,249
All females	\$23,165	\$104,865	\$20,109	\$22,899	\$19,808	\$20,425	\$21,624
Female: male earnings ratio	78.6%	87.9%	78.5%	88.0%	79.4%	123.7%	82.4%
White							
Total population	\$27,241	\$114,976	\$21,887	\$25,674	\$22,449	\$19,407	\$25,559
Males	\$31,193	\$124,840	\$26,052	\$26,629	\$27,505	\$16,962	\$27,692
Females	\$24,273	\$107,294	\$18,815	\$24,068	\$19,783	\$22,173	\$22,455
Female: male earnings ratio	77.8%	85.9%	72.2%	90.4%	71.9%	130.7%	81.1%
Black							
Total population	\$21,946	\$97,711	\$21,644	\$20,061	\$19,696	\$18,395	\$17,915
Males	\$22,499	\$89,346	\$18,754	\$19,395	\$13,669	\$20,357	\$17,171
Females	\$21,527	\$106,206	\$22,841	\$20,236	\$26,250	\$18,253	\$18,626
Female: male earnings ratio	95.7%	118.9%	121.8%	104.3%	192.0%	89.7%	108.5%
American Indian/Alaskan Native							
Total population	\$21,109	\$76,609	–	\$40,056	\$25,417	\$11,136	–
Males	\$21,189	\$79,747	–	\$40,724	\$26,750	\$12,273	–
Females	\$21,024	\$35,051	–	\$15,329	\$19,722	–	–
Female: male earnings ratio	99.2%	44.0%	–	37.6%	73.7%	–	–
Asian							
Total population	\$25,285	\$120,180	\$60,029	\$12,465	\$24,279	\$23,407	–
Males	\$28,839	\$115,180	\$60,127	\$9,892	\$35,455	\$9,706	–
Females	\$22,653	\$97,169	\$47,308	\$25,849	–	\$24,012	–
Female: male earnings ratio	78.5%	84.4%	78.7%	261.3%	–	247.4%	–
Hispanic							
Total population	\$21,487	\$78,732	\$14,581	\$19,697	\$14,554	\$12,855	\$17,045
Males	\$22,517	\$88,063	\$21,857	\$21,347	\$14,527	\$10,945	\$19,387
Females	\$20,132	\$78,653	\$13,571	\$18,631	\$15,104	\$17,821	\$13,526
Female: male earnings ratio	89.4%	89.3%	62.1%	87.3%	104.0%	162.8%	69.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Men tend to have higher median hourly wages than women. Table 17 shows that the wage ratio (women wage/men wage) for Lee County varied from 64.1% for women in health care to 86.7% for women in production, transportation, and material moving. There were a few cases where the median hourly wage was higher for women than men. Women in computer, engineering, and science fields had a higher wage ratio than men, at 101.0%. Women in production, transportation, and material moving in Collier County also showed a higher wage ratio at 104.4%.

Table 17

Median Hourly Wages and Wage Ratio of Waged and Salaried Workers, Age 16 and Over

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Women						
Management, business, and financial	\$40,737	\$41,268	\$45,837	\$28,958	\$32,386	\$41,577
Natural resources, construction, and maint.	\$19,658	–	\$12,162	\$20,658	–	\$19,420
Computer, engineering, and science	\$48,927	\$45,933	\$41,742	–	\$25,208	\$41,517
Education, legal, comm. service, arts and media	\$35,377	\$23,752	\$40,495	\$30,036	\$32,234	\$37,079
Health care	\$45,698	\$45,572	\$41,971	–	\$39,112	\$43,251
Production, transportation, and material moving	\$20,113	\$30,330	\$23,732	\$28,269	\$14,241	\$21,847
Service	\$15,844	\$13,828	\$17,067	\$17,760	\$13,501	\$15,227
Sales and office	\$23,778	\$18,620	\$22,909	\$21,349	\$22,809	\$21,804
Men						
Management, business, and financial	\$60,263	\$53,539	\$60,380	\$29,417	\$54,800	\$51,345
Natural resources, construction, and maint.	\$27,382	\$29,111	\$25,711	\$19,694	\$13,965	\$25,973
Computer, engineering, and science	\$60,504	\$50,888	\$41,310	–	–	\$49,899
Education, legal, comm. service, arts and media	\$41,741	\$36,250	\$59,607	\$39,479	–	\$44,390
Health care	\$66,320	\$88,198	\$100,772	–	–	\$67,429
Production, transportation, and material moving	\$26,663	\$53,259	\$22,724	\$29,581	\$26,755	\$25,191
Service	\$20,537	\$21,429	\$21,190	\$13,780	\$18,925	\$20,962
Sales and office	\$30,157	\$21,911	\$25,300	\$18,810	\$26,293	\$28,936
Wage ratio						
Management, business, and financial	67.6%	77.1%	75.9%	98.4%	59.1%	81.0%
Natural resources, construction, and maint.	71.8%	–	47.3%	104.9%	–	74.8%
Computer, engineering, and science	80.9%	90.3%	101.0%	–	–	83.2%
Education, legal, comm. service, arts and media	84.8%	65.5%	67.9%	76.1%	–	83.5%
Health care	68.9%	51.7%	41.6%	–	–	64.1%
Production, transportation, and material moving	75.4%	56.9%	104.4%	95.6%	53.2%	86.7%
Service	77.1%	64.5%	80.5%	128.9%	71.3%	72.6%
Sales and office	78.8%	85.0%	90.5%	113.5%	86.7%	75.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Retirement

Women tend to receive less average benefits from Social Security than men. In 2010, men in the State of Florida received \$1,324 in average monthly benefits compared with \$1,014 for women. Collier County had the largest gap with men receiving \$1,497 versus women receiving \$1,073. The four other Southwest Florida counties reported that men received approximately 30% more in average monthly benefits when compared to women. See Table 18.

Table 18
Old Age Survivors and Disability Insurance
Benefits for Age 65 and Older, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total beneficiaries	2,752,794	42,970	62,125	1,620	3,560	136,567
Female	1,528,118	22,855	32,795	785	1,775	62,311
Male	1,224,676	20,115	29,330	835	1,785	74,256
Average monthly benefit	\$1,152	\$1,176	\$1,273	\$1,103	\$1,081	\$822
Female	\$1,014	\$1,017	\$1,073	\$953	\$946	\$959
Male	\$1,324	\$1,357	\$1,497	\$1,244	\$1,215	\$707

Source: Social Security Administration, Master Beneficiary Record; Census Bureau, Population Division, 2010 estimates of resident population.

Poverty

More women than men are in poverty in Southwest Florida, as shown in Table 19. More men are in poverty in Hendry County than women, reflecting the larger number of men in the county.

Table 19

Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Gender and Age

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females in poverty	1,392,477	75,587	9,223	20,437	1,275	4,456	40,196
Under 5 years	116,504	6,869	578	1,936	120	530	3,705
Percent in poverty	8.4%	9.1%	6.3%	9.5%	9.4%	11.9%	9.2%
5–17 years	261,040	14,103	1,558	3,886	379	977	7,303
Percent in poverty	18.7%	18.7%	16.9%	19.0%	29.7%	21.9%	18.2%
18–64 years	818,102	43,303	5,131	11,884	572	2,662	23,054
Percent in poverty	58.8%	57.3%	55.6%	58.1%	44.9%	59.7%	57.4%
65 and over	196,831	11,312	1,956	2,731	204	287	6,134
Percent in poverty	14.1%	15.0%	21.2%	13.4%	16.0%	6.4%	15.3%
Males in poverty	1,109,888	63,249	7,320	17,759	1,034	5,257	31,879
Under 5 years	123,290	7,255	628	2,438	55	415	3,719
Percent in poverty	11.1%	11.5%	8.6%	13.7%	5.3%	7.9%	11.7%
5–17 years	266,836	15,048	1,395	4,332	311	1,561	7,449
Percent in poverty	24.0%	23.8%	19.1%	24.4%	30.1%	29.7%	23.4%
18–64 years	611,996	34,631	4,170	9,072	600	3,172	17,617
Percent in poverty	55.1%	54.8%	57.0%	51.1%	58.0%	60.3%	55.3%
65 and over	107,766	6,315	1,127	1,917	68	109	3,094
Percent in poverty	9.7%	10.0%	15.4%	10.8%	6.6%	2.1%	9.7%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 20 shows that among the five counties in Southwest Florida, Glades County had the highest percentage of White girls (ages 5 and under) living below the poverty level at 6.8%. Conversely, Charlotte County had the lowest population of White girls living below the poverty line at 3.5%. Lee County shows the Black population to have the highest percentage of girls living below the poverty level at 8.3%, while Glades County shows the lowest at 0.0%. Care should be taken where the number of individuals is small; therefore, the following chart is best used to compare poverty rates across all counties.

Table 20
Number and Percent of Southwest Florida Females
in Poverty by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White							
Under 5 years	59,869	4,367	486	1,280	120	220	2,261
Percent	3.8%	4.5%	3.5%	5.0%	6.8%	4.2%	4.5%
5–17 years	132,489	7,682	1,194	2,056	195	447	3,790
Percent	8.4%	7.9%	8.7%	8.0%	11.0%	8.6%	7.5%
18–64 years	527,586	30,623	4,361	8,121	453	1,195	16,493
Percent	33.4%	31.6%	31.8%	31.5%	25.6%	22.9%	32.8%
65 and over	154,653	9,970	1,635	2,426	176	198	5,535
Percent	9.8%	10.3%	11.9%	9.4%	9.9%	3.8%	11.0%
Black							
Under 5 years	41,639	1,463	11	307	0	85	1,060
Percent	6.1%	6.4%	0.7%	5.0%	0.0%	4.1%	8.3%
5–17 years	97,168	3,708	209	1,023	0	264	2,212
Percent	14.3%	16.2%	13.1%	16.5%	0.0%	12.7%	17.3%
18–64 years	212,180	6,781	391	1,859	74	822	3,635
Percent	31.2%	29.6%	24.5%	30.1%	29.8%	39.7%	28.4%
65 and over	33,298	1,037	228	257	18	89	445
Percent	4.9%	4.5%	14.3%	4.2%	7.3%	4.3%	3.5%
American Indian and Alaska Native							
Under 5 years	567	32	0	32	0	0	0
Percent	5.0%	3.5%	0.0%	11.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
5–17 years	1,433	162	0	73	0	0	89
Percent	12.6%	17.9%	0.0%	25.3%	0.0%	0.0%	21.3%
18–64 years	4,253	296	43	43	0	36	174
Percent	37.3%	32.8%	34.4%	14.9%	0.0%	73.5%	41.6%
65 and over	480	39	29	0	10	0	0
Percent	4.2%	4.3%	23.2%	0.0%	45.5%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

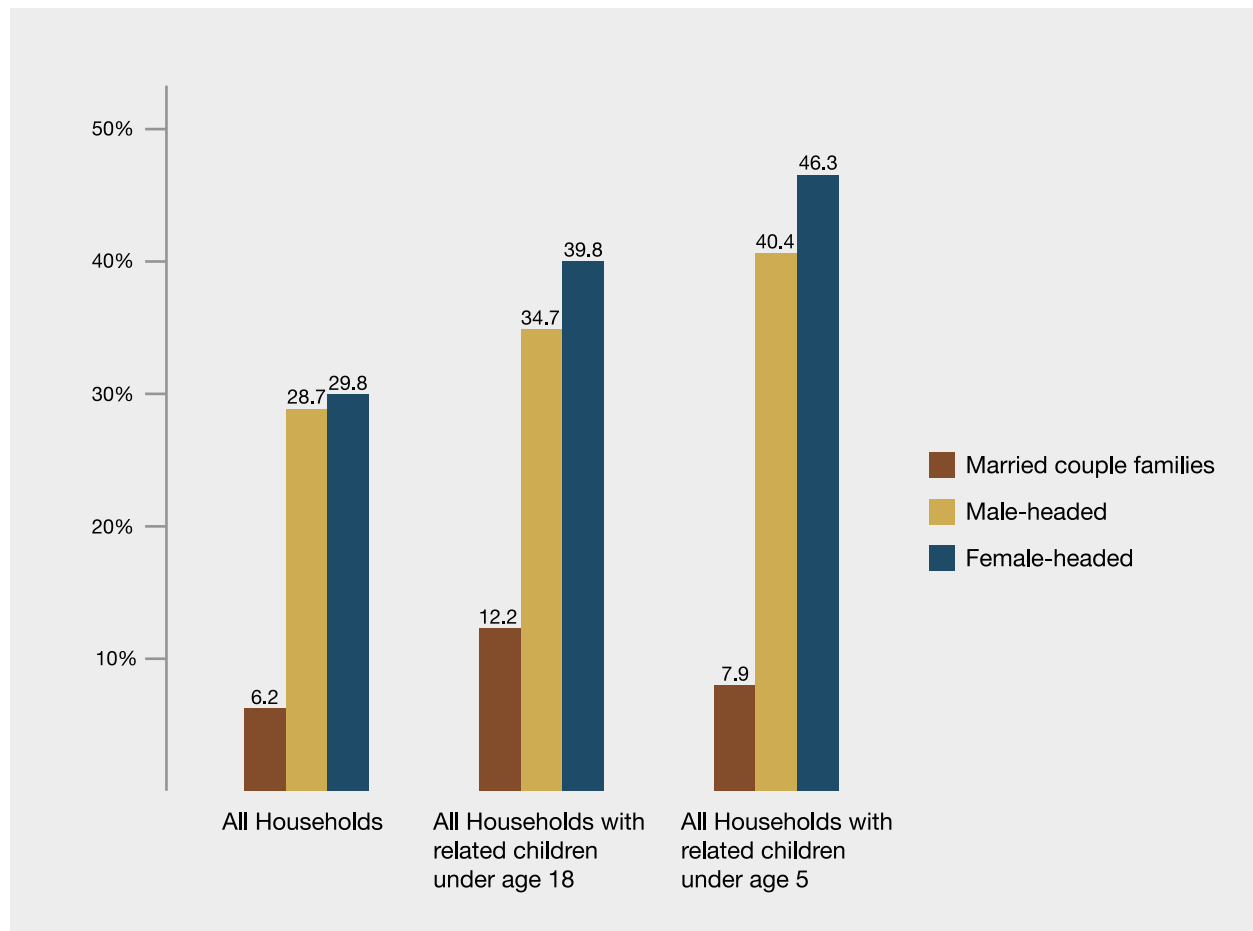
Table 20 continued

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Asian							
Under 5 years	1,297	11	0	0	0	11	0
Percent	2.6%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	55.0%	0.0%
5–17 years	4414	121	0	12	0	0	109
Percent	8.7%	9.8%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	0.0%	16.8%
18–64 years	19,097	489	56	177	0	0	256
Percent	37.6%	39.6%	41.8%	41.2%	0.0%	0.0%	39.4%
65 and over	2375	60	31	8	0	0	21
Percent	4.7%	4.9%	23.1%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	3.2%
Other race							
Under 5 years	7526	869	60	287	0	166	356
Percent	6.1%	6.0%	9.4%	5.7%	0.0%	8.2%	5.5%
5–17 years	15423	1988	141	648	184	180	835
Percent	12.4%	13.7%	22.1%	12.8%	68.9%	8.9%	12.8%
18–64 years	39760	4396	233	1446	45	526	2146
Percent	32.0%	30.3%	36.5%	28.6%	16.9%	25.9%	33.0%
65 and over	3700	76	0	0	0	0	76
Percent	3.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.2%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Married-couple households report much lower poverty levels than female or male-headed households. Figure 6 illustrates that 6.2% of married-couple households live in poverty, compared with 28.7% for male-headed households and 29.8% for female-headed households, when comparing for all households. The percentage of families living in poverty was higher for households with dependent children. Male-headed households with dependent children ages 18 and under had a poverty rate of 34.7%, while female-headed households with dependent children ages 18 and under had a rate of 39.8%. Female-headed households with dependent children ages 5 and under had the highest poverty rate at 46.3%, while male-headed households with children under 5 was less, at 40.4%.

Figure 6
Percent of Southwest Florida Females in Poverty
by Type of Household, 2006–2010



Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Southwest Florida female-headed households with dependent children are more likely to have incomes below the poverty level than other households. Table 21 shows that 46.3% of female-headed households with no husband present and dependent children ages 5 and under lived below the poverty level in Southwest Florida in 2010. A slightly lower rate of 39.8% was shown for female headed-households with no husband present and dependent children ages 18 and under. Hendry County had the highest percentage of female householders with no husband present and children ages 5 and under living below the poverty level at 56.6%, whereas Lee County had the lowest percentage at 42.2%.

Table 21

Households Below Poverty by Household Type and Age of Children, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All household types	4,556,930	288,642	44,250	80,262	2,749	8,542	152,839
Households below poverty	548,767	31,693	4,104	8,311	319	1,668	17,291
Percent below poverty	12.0%	11.0%	9.3%	10.4%	11.6%	19.5%	11.3%
Married-couple family	218,862	14,291	1,980	3,625	236	746	7,704
With related children under 18 years	123,845	7,469	1,016	1,910	96	420	4,027
Percent	10.0%	12.2%	13.4%	11.3%	20.3%	16.4%	11.9%
Under 5 years	20,796	827	110	250	10	73	384
Percent	8.9%	7.9%	10.8%	7.6%	11.6%	20.7%	6.7%
Male householder (no wife present)	58,942	4,765	656	1,007	14	110	2,978
With related children under 18 years	39,589	3,537	371	723	14	110	2,319
Percent	23.4%	34.7%	33.7%	29.4%	46.7%	34.2%	37.0%
Under 5 years	10,454	889	186	249	0	0	454
Percent	26.8%	40.4%	38.8%	59.7%	–	–	34.9%
Female householder (no husband present)	270,963	12,697	1,468	3,679	129	812	6,609
With related children under 18 years	225,952	11,362	1,387	3,060	129	792	5,994
Percent	37.6%	39.8%	35.6%	45.0%	42.2%	45.2%	37.9%
Under 5 years	40,985	1,587	172	403	0	201	811
Percent	42.2%	46.3%	49.7%	50.2%	–	56.6%	42.2%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

Black and American Indian households have a significantly higher number of households living below the poverty income level than White or Asian households. Tables 22–25 show that certain racial/ethnic minority groups had a higher level of households living below poverty than Whites and Asians. The disparity in income in Southwest Florida between Whites and other racial/ethnic groups is similar to both the state and national statistics.

Table 22

White Households Below Poverty by Household Type and Age of Children, 2006–2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All households	4,478,667	290,543	47,162	77,655	2,665	7,354	155,707
Number below poverty	9.6%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%	12.5%	17.6%	7.4%
White households total	3,711,215	268,674	44,514	73,183	2,445	6,139	142,393
Percent below poverty	7.7%	6.4%	6.6%	6.0%	10.3%	13.2%	6.1%
Married-couple family	3.6%	3.5%	3.7%	3.0%	6.9%	7.4%	3.4%
With related children under 18 years	1.8%	1.6%	1.5%	1.3%	3.7%	3.5%	1.7%
Under 5 years	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.4%	0.9%	0.3%
Male householder (no wife present)	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%	1.6%	0.8%
With related children under 18 years	0.6%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	1.6%	0.6%
Under 5 years	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Female householder (no husband present)	3.3%	2.2%	2.4%	2.3%	2.8%	4.1%	1.9%
With related children under 18 years	2.8%	1.9%	2.1%	2.0%	2.8%	3.8%	1.7%
Under 5 years	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.0%	1.3%	0.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 23
Black Households Below Poverty by Household
Type and Age of Children, 2006–2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All households	4,478,667	290,543	47,162	77,655	2,665	7,354	155,707
Number below poverty	9.6%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%	12.5%	17.6%	7.4%
Black households total	647,411	17,784	2,133	3,584	141	1,124	10,802
Percent below poverty	20.4%	0.0%	14.8%	26.8%	58.2%	42.0%	23.3%
Married-couple family	4.1%	0.0%	3.0%	5.8%	44.0%	7.3%	5.7%
With related children under 18 years	2.7%	0.0%	0.6%	3.8%	0.0%	3.4%	4.0%
Under 5 years	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Male householder (no wife present)	1.9%	0.0%	1.6%	3.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%
With related children under 18 years	1.4%	0.0%	1.6%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%
Under 5 years	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
Female householder (no husband present)	14.4%	0.0%	10.2%	17.3%	14.2%	34.7%	15.7%
With related children under 18 years	12.7%	0.0%	6.0%	14.4%	14.2%	34.7%	14.5%
Under 5 years	2.3%	0.0%	0.6%	0.1%	0.0%	7.5%	2.1%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 24

**American Indian/Alaskan Native Households Below Poverty
by Household Type and Age of Children, 2006–2010**

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All households	4,478,667	290,543	47,162	77,655	2,665	7,354	155,707
Number below poverty	9.6%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%	12.5%	17.6%	7.4%
American Indian/Alaskan Native households total	13,358	697	102	171	47	33	344
Percent below poverty	16.8%	0.0%	42.2%	37.4%	0.0%	33.3%	19.5%
Married-couple family	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	21.6%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%
With related children under 18 years	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%	21.6%	0.0%	0.0%	4.9%
Under 5 years	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Male householder (no wife present)	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	11.7%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%
With related children under 18 years	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%	11.7%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%
Under 5 years	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Female householder (no husband present)	8.3%	0.0%	42.2%	4.1%	0.0%	0.0%	14.5%
With related children under 18 years	7.1%	0.0%	14.7%	4.1%	0.0%	0.0%	14.5%
Under 5 years	1.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 25

Asian Households Below Poverty by Household Type and Age of Children, 2006–2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All households	4,478,667	290,543	47,162	77,655	2,665	7,354	155,707
Number below poverty	9.6%	7.5%	7.0%	7.0%	12.5%	17.6%	7.4%
Asian households total	104,046	3,376	413	717	32	58	2,156
Percent below poverty	9.1%	0.0%	6.8%	6.3%	0.0%	0.0%	7.6%
Married-couple family	5.4%	0.0%	3.9%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	3.4%
With related children under 18 years	3.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	2.7%
Under 5 years	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
Male householder (no wife present)	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.6%
With related children under 18 years	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Under 5 years	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Female householder (no husband present)	2.7%	0.0%	2.9%	1.7%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%
With related children under 18 years	2.1%	0.0%	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.1%
Under 5 years	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Public Assistance

Over 300,000 households in Southwest Florida received food stamps. Table 26 shows that such households included over 8,000 married-couple families, over 8,200 female-headed households with no husband present, and over 2,700 male-headed households with no wife present.

Table 26

Food Stamp Receipts by Household Type, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total households	4,670,069	303,395	48,044	81,135	2,749	8,542	162,925
Household received Food Stamps/SNAP in the past 12 months	435,683	19,084	2,759	3,969	232	1,573	10,551
Married-couple family	168,227	8,073	1,223	1,909	118	541	4,282
Female householder (no husband present)	220,732	8,292	1,101	1,513	85	835	4,758
Male householder (no wife present)	46,724	2,719	435	547	29	197	1,511

Source: Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida

Child Care and Support

Southwest Florida provides levels of child care services similar to the State of Florida. From 2006 to 2010, Charlotte and Hendry Counties reported the highest percentage of licensed day care centers while Lee County reported the lowest. In terms of subsidized care, Hendry County had the highest percentage of children in subsidized day care centers at 62.8%; however, each of the five Southwest Florida counties had a lower percentage of children in such centers as compared with the State of Florida at 82.5%. In addition, Charlotte County had the highest percentage of children in voluntary pre-K programs and the highest percentage of children with disabilities receiving pre-K services, as shown in Table 27.

Table 27

Children in Early Learning Environments, 2006–2010

	Year(s)	Florida Comparison	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Licensed child care centers and homes	2010	– (2.8%)	399 –	75 (4.5%)	137 (2.8%)	3 (2.0%)	28 (3.2%)	156 (1.7%)
Children in school readiness programs (subsidized child care)	2007–2009	– (82.5%)	8,062 –	970 (57.5%)	1,959 (39.8%)	65 (41.4%)	552 (62.8%)	4,516 (49.2%)
Children in voluntary pre-K programs	2009	– (68.4%)	8,858 –	977 (79.0%)	2,432 (61.4%)	18 (16.1%)	292 (36.4%)	5,139 (69.5%)
Children age 3–5 with disabilities receiving pre-K services	2006–2008	– (30.1%)	1,167 –	138 (38.2%)	363 (32.2%)	10 (30.4%)	32 (15.7%)	624 (30.1%)

Source: Healthy Start Coalition of Southwest Florida

More to Learn about Employment and Income

1. What are the influences that cause the labor force participation rate for women to be lower than the rate for men, and how are the rates changing over time?
2. What are the dominant reasons for fewer women working in management occupations than men?
3. Is the rate of increase at which women are entering into management occupations keeping up with the national average?
4. Is the gender wage gap decreasing in Southwest Florida at the same pace as the national average?
5. Will the unemployment rate for women exceed the unemployment rate for men after the housing market has recovered?
6. What is the difference in wealth for women and men?
7. How many women are starting businesses per year?
8. What are the types of businesses being started by women?
9. What types of entrepreneurship programs exist for women in Southwest Florida?
10. How does education influence women's wages and perceived level of success?
11. How does experience influence women's earning potential?
12. What is the level of underemployment for women?
13. What is the supply and demand of child care and support in Southwest Florida?
14. What is the value of unpaid labor?

Assets to Build on and Opportunities for Change

Occupations and Employment Status

Assets

Women currently have lower rates of unemployment compared with men (Table 1).

Black women have the highest labor force participation rates at 65.7% for Southwest Florida (Table 6).

26.6% of women hold positions as healthcare practitioners and technical occupations compared to 10.2% for men in Southwest Florida (Table 9).

19.5% of women hold education, training, and library occupations compared to 6.9% for men in Southwest Florida (Table 9).

More women hold sales and office occupations than men (Table 10).

4.9% of women are self-employed in their own incorporated business compared to 11.2% for men (Table 13).

Opportunities

Women continue to have lower rates of labor force participation than men (Table 5).

In management, science, and related occupations, only 25.5% of women hold management position compared to 45.3% for men (Table 9).

Women in Southwest Florida are in historically lower-paying occupations than men (Tables 11 and 12).

Providing better information on career choices and the working environment will allow women and girls to make better choice.

Opportunities to provide or coordinate education and career counseling services for Black women.

Opportunities to diversify and expand opportunities for women.

55.5% of the women in sales and office occupations are classified as support personnel, compared to 39.7% of men (Table 10).

Are there entrepreneurial programs that target women and girls?

Earnings and Wages

Assets

Hendry County women had median earnings for women that were 123.7% of men (Table 16).

Opportunities

Overall, Southwest Florida women have median annual earnings that are 87.9% of men (Table 16).

Women tend to have lower median annual earnings than men. Opportunities to select a broader range of careers and the ability and choice to work full-time are key factors to closing this gap (Tables 14 and 16).

Retirement

Opportunities

Women receive lower average benefits from Social Security than men (Table 18).

Poverty

Opportunities

A significantly higher number of Black and American Indian households are below the poverty income level compared to the percentage of all households (Tables 23 and 24).

Public Assistance

Opportunities

Over 300,000 households in Southwest Florida receive food stamps (Table 26).

Child Care and Support

Opportunities

Hendry County has the highest percentage of children in subsidized day care centers at 63% (Table 27).



Achievement and Autonomy

The Achievement and Autonomy section examines information on education, political participation, and access to resources for women and girls in Southwest Florida. The topics discussed in this section include:

- Educational attainment
- Literacy
- Political participation
- Homeownership
- Business ownership and leadership

Educational Attainment

A higher percentage of females ages 18 and older earn more high school diplomas or equivalency certifications when compared with their male counterparts. In Southwest Florida, females had a 6.8% higher graduation/completion rate than males. Glades and Hendry Counties are the only two counties where males had a higher percentage of high school diplomas or equivalency certifications than females. See Table 1.

Table 1
Population Age 18 and Over with High School Diploma or Equivalent by Gender, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total high school graduates (with no further education)	4,454,933	294,156	48,143	72,441	3,349	10,478	159,745
Female	51.9%	53.4%	54.8%	54.5%	45.0%	49.5%	53.0%
Male	48.1%	46.6%	45.2%	45.5%	55.0%	50.5%	47.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

In Southwest Florida, males ages 18 and older experience a higher dropout rate and fewer graduations than females. While this is the general trend for Southwest Florida, the opposite is true for the state, which shows female non-high school graduates to outnumber males by 6.2%. Glades County has the largest gap, with 70.4% non-high school male graduates and only 29.6% females.

Table 2
Non-High School Graduates by Gender, Age 18 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total non-high school graduates	2,233,061	147,369	16,063	43,491	3,102	9,521	75,192
Percent female	53.1%	42.9%	44.2%	41.3%	29.6%	30.2%	45.7%
Percent male	46.9%	57.1%	55.8%	58.7%	70.4%	69.8%	54.3%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

In Southwest Florida, females exceed males in educational attainment until the associate degree level. Overall, Southwest Florida is close to the State of Florida's percentage. Nearly 3% more males than females have bachelor's and graduate degrees, as shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3
Female Educational Attainment of Population Age 18 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females age 18 and over	7,679,957	477,854	71,354	132,767	4,280	12,738	256,715
Less than 9th grade	5.1%	5.0%	2.2%	5.8%	9.3%	10.7%	5.1%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	8.6%	8.2%	7.7%	7.7%	12.2%	11.8%	8.3%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	30.1%	32.9%	36.9%	29.7%	35.2%	40.7%	33.0%
Some college, no degree	23.8%	24.2%	24.9%	22.1%	26.5%	22.9%	25.2%
Associate degree	9.3%	7.9%	7.5%	7.8%	5.2%	3.1%	8.3%
Bachelor's degree	15.5%	13.9%	13.3%	17.5%	8.4%	6.5%	12.7%
Graduate or professional degree	7.6%	7.8%	7.5%	9.4%	3.2%	4.2%	7.3%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

Table 4

Male Educational Attainment of Population Age 18 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Males age 18 and over	7,163,850	456,371	65,667	126,980	5,859	15,494	242,371
Less than 9th grade	5.8%	6.7%	3.4%	7.1%	13.6%	25.6%	6.1%
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	10.8%	11.2%	10.3%	11.1%	23.7%	17.3%	10.8%
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	29.9%	30.0%	33.2%	26.0%	31.4%	34.2%	31.0%
Some college, no degree	22.0%	21.1%	24.8%	19.6%	17.1%	13.0%	21.4%
Associate degree	7.4%	6.6%	6.9%	4.8%	5.1%	3.8%	7.6%
Bachelor's degree	15.4%	15.3%	14.2%	18.9%	4.5%	4.6%	14.8%
Graduate or professional degree	8.7%	9.1%	7.2%	12.6%	4.6%	1.5%	8.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

In Southwest Florida, more males have bachelor's and graduate degrees than females. In comparison, the State of Florida has a higher percentage of females than males with bachelor's degrees, as shown in Table 5. Charlotte and Hendry County are the only counties in Southwest Florida where females have a higher percentage of graduate/professional degrees than males, as shown in Table 5.

Table 5

Degrees by Gender, Persons Age 18 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Collier County	Charlotte County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Associate's degree	1,250,661	67,685	16,384	9,890	520	986	39,905
Percent women	57.4%	55.7%	63.1%	54.0%	42.5%	40.6%	53.5%
Percent men	42.6%	44.3%	36.9%	46.0%	57.5%	59.4%	46.5%
Bachelor's degree	2,294,375	136,652	47,227	18,781	624	1,534	68,486
Percent women	52.0%	48.8%	49.3%	50.4%	57.4%	53.9%	47.8%
Percent men	48.0%	51.2%	50.7%	49.6%	42.6%	46.1%	52.2%
Graduate/professional degree	1,210,528	78,784	28,388	10,106	409	770	39,111
Percent women	48.3%	47.4%	43.8%	53.0%	34.0%	68.8%	48.2%
Percent men	51.7%	52.6%	56.2%	47.0%	66.0%	31.2%	51.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

Females of all age groups, except 65 years and older, in Southwest Florida exceed males in the attainment of bachelor's degrees, as shown in Tables 6 and 7. Similar to the bachelor's degree attainment, females also dominate Southwest Florida in the attainment of graduate and professional degrees. For instance, 7.5% of females ages 18–24 in Southwest Florida attain bachelor's degrees compared with 5.3% of males.

Table 6
Female Educational Attainment by Age, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females							
18–24 years	862,440	40,758	4,370	10,626	338	2,038	23,386
Bachelor's degree	8.2%	7.5%	6.3%	13.7%	0.0%	2.7%	5.5%
Graduate or professional degree	0.8%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
25–34 years	1,128,425	54,962	5,134	14,931	595	1,963	32,339
Bachelor's degree	21.0%	13.8%	13.5%	13.1%	4.7%	3.6%	15.0%
Graduate or professional degree	8.5%	7.2%	10.7%	9.2%	3.5%	0.0%	6.2%
35–64 years	3,873,658	229,257	33,461	62,671	2,058	6,701	124,366
Bachelor's degree	21.0%	16.6%	13.5%	13.1%	4.7%	3.6%	15.0%
Graduate or professional degree	9.2%	8.3%	7.6%	9.4%	2.3%	6.1%	8.2%
65 years and over	1,815,434	152,877	28,389	44,539	1,289	2,036	76,624
Bachelor's degree	10.7%	11.7%	9.0%	17.4%	7.4%	1.0%	9.7%
Graduate or professional degree	6.9%	9.3%	8.0%	11.6%	5.4%	5.8%	8.6%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

Table 7
Male Educational Attainment by Age, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Males							
18–24 years	904,188	44,164	4,536	12,333	693	3,000	23,602
Bachelor's degree	5.8%	2.2%	0.0%	4.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.0%
Graduate or professional degree	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
25–34 years	1,142,525	60,053	5,648	16,758	1,067	2,846	33,734
Bachelor's degree	15.9%	11.3%	19.7%	13.5%	4.2%	6.7%	9.5%
Graduate or professional degree	5.8%	2.9%	3.7%	3.5%	0.0%	1.5%	2.7%
35–64 years	3,659,372	211,980	29,567	56,876	2,754	7,220	115,563
Bachelor's degree	17.2%	15.7%	13.1%	18.9%	5.2%	5.6%	15.6%
Graduate or professional degree	9.8%	8.2%	6.4%	10.1%	4.8%	1.6%	8.2%
65 years and over	1,457,765	140,174	25,916	41,013	1,345	2,428	69,472
Bachelor's degree	16.4%	20.7%	16.7%	25.5%	5.7%	4.7%	20.2%
Graduate or professional degree	13.5%	16.0%	10.3%	23.4%	10.3%	3.5%	14.3%

Source: American Community Survey, 2010

By race, Asian females achieve greater educational attainment than other racial groups while American Indian females achieve the lowest educational attainment. Tables 8–13 show that within all racial groups, a greater percentage of females than males have obtained at least a high school diploma or equivalency certification.

Table 8

Female Educational Attainment for all Race/Ethnicities, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Females	6,669,663	426,786	66,324	119,320	3,942	10,584	226,616
Less than high school diploma	923,533	55,493	7,527	16,504	771	2,966	27,725
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	2,069,902	142,530	24,267	36,185	1,385	4,248	76,445
Some college or associate's degree	2,030,754	128,888	21,494	33,674	1,289	2,261	70,170
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,091,358	64,896	8,404	21,184	358	733	34,217

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 9

Female Educational Attainment by Race: White, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White Females	4,239,957	337,147	59,324	90,776	3,085	5,030	178,932
Less than high school diploma	390,554	27,621	6,254	5,522	451	672	14,722
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	1,376,689	114,886	21,997	27,485	1,202	2,225	61,977
Some college or associate's degree	1,360,445	107,732	19,437	28,285	1,066	1,398	57,546
Bachelor's degree or higher	1,112,269	86,908	11,636	29,484	366	735	44,687

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 10

Female Educational Attainment by Race: Black, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Black Females	911,357	25,101	3,025	5,986	204	1,503	14,383
Less than high school diploma	187,566	7,305	671	2,546	–	424	3,664
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	286,187	8,262	936	1,510	48	785	4,983
Some college or associate's degree	274,893	6,531	961	1,281	50	191	4,048
Bachelor's degree or higher	162,711	3,003	457	649	106	103	1,688

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 11

Female Educational Attainment by Race: American Indian/Alaskan Native, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
American Indian/Alaskan Native Females	18,149	1,025	161	244	64	55	501
Less than high school diploma	3,548	291	11	98	28	7	147
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	5,119	262	58	47	4	29	124
Some college or associate's degree	6,311	261	54	45	19	12	131
Bachelor's degree or higher	3,171	211	38	54	13	7	99

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 12

Female Educational Attainment by Race: Asian, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Asian Females	167,298	5,727	845	1,350	67	94	3,371
Less than high school diploma	27,415	890	77	209	–	27	577
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	33,749	1,316	193	338	47	–	738
Some college or associate's degree	34,381	1,393	262	284	20	48	779
Bachelor's degree or higher	71,753	2,128	313	519	–	19	1,277

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 13

Female Education Attainment by Race: Hispanic, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Hispanic Females	1,299,535	56,281	2,692	20,716	522	3,890	28,461
Less than high school diploma	315,452	19,387	484	8,062	292	1,879	8,670
High school graduate, GED, or alternative	359,395	17,013	875	6,714	84	1,154	8,186
Some college or associate's degree	339,149	12,483	747	3,736	134	612	7,254
Bachelor's degree or higher	285,539	7,398	586	2,204	12	245	4,351

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

School Enrollment

A higher percentage of females than males ages 3 and 4 are enrolled in school. For ages 5 to 17, percentages are constant with approximately 95% to 100% enrollment for both females and males. Females ages 18 and older are more likely to be enrolled in school than males. See Tables 14–15.

Table 14

Female School Enrollment, Age 3 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Char- lotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total 3 and 4 years	213,294	833	13,024	3,456	165	615
Enrolled in school	109,635	301	5,361	1,307	84	272
Percent enrolled	51.4%	36.1%	41.2%	37.8%	50.9%	44.2%
Total 5 to 9 years	528,784	3,203	29,179	7,938	371	1,479
Enrolled in school	506,527	3,042	27,603	7,484	349	1,429
Percent enrolled	95.8%	95.0%	94.6%	94.3%	94.1%	96.6%
Total 10 to 14 years	547,837	3,213	29,637	8,549	440	1,363
Enrolled in school	537,809	3,193	29,178	8,301	440	1,335
Percent enrolled	98.2%	99.4%	98.5%	97.1%	100.0%	97.9%
Total 15 to 17 years	354,607	2,280	18,786	5325	237	902
Enrolled in school	337,784	2,206	18,076	5,099	237	851
Percent enrolled	95.3%	96.8%	96.2%	95.8%	100.0%	94.3%
Total 18 and 19 years	242,917	1,319	11,701	3,004	37	503
Enrolled in school	179,055	842	8,241	2,171	37	267
Percent enrolled	73.7%	63.8%	70.4%	72.3%	100.0%	53.1%
Total 20 to 24 years	589,178	2,797	27,376	7,089	301	1,507
Enrolled in school	262,799	780	10,497	2,797	27	440
Percent enrolled	44.6%	27.9%	38.3%	39.5%	9.0%	29.2%
Total 25 to 34 years	1,121,374	5,314	55,602	15,228	595	2,060
Enrolled in school	169,763	845	5,604	1,566	12	13
Percent enrolled	15.1%	15.9%	10.1%	10.3%	2.0%	0.6%
Total 35 years and older	5,548,289	61,010	371,184	104,092	3,347	8,524
Enrolled in school	170,696	1,510	8,937	2,474	26	223
Percent enrolled	3.1%	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%	0.8%	2.6%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008–2010, 3-year estimates

Table 15
Male School Enrollment, Age 3 and Above, 2010

	Florida	Collier County	Charlotte County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total 3 and 4 years	221,513	12,362	1412	3582	64	610
Enrolled in school	111,904	4,991	688	1235	64	179
Percent enrolled	50.5%	40.4%	48.7%	34.5%	100.0%	29.3%
Total 5 to 9 years	541,272	30,093	2993	8491	390	1429
Enrolled in school	515,438	28,867	2839	8150	390	1429
Percent enrolled	95.2%	95.9%	94.9%	96.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Total 10 to 14 years	584,017	31,873	3791	9253	251	1597
Enrolled in school	572,844	31,443	3787	9153	251	1585
Percent enrolled	98.1%	98.7%	99.9%	98.9%	100.0%	99.2%
Total 15 to 17 years	376,067	20,409	2477	5815	225	1077
Enrolled in school	354,819	19,199	2452	5350	195	973
Percent enrolled	94.3%	94.1%	99.0%	92.0%	86.7%	90.3%
Total 18 and 19 years	258,920	13,164	1475	3467	347	787
Enrolled in school	172,462	7,742	909	2201	160	318
Percent enrolled	66.6%	58.8%	61.6%	63.5%	46.1%	40.4%
Total 20 to 24 years	619,044	30,202	3306	8290	346	1800
Enrolled in school	224,236	7,355	622	2006	48	167
Percent enrolled	36.2%	24.4%	18.8%	24.2%	13.9%	9.3%
Total 25 to 34 years	1,128,549	61,065	5721	17186	1067	3290
Enrolled in school	125,126	4,219	375	1268	106	85
Percent enrolled	11.1%	6.9%	6.6%	7.4%	9.9%	2.6%
Total 35 years and older	4,990,259	343,012	54804	95534	4099	9534
Enrolled in school	104,798	5,362	818	1340	41	229
Percent enrolled	2.1%	1.6%	1.5%	1.4%	1.0%	2.4%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008–2010, 3-year estimates

Female school enrollment rates by race are provided in Table 16. The region has lower enrollment for the 3 and 4 year old age group than the State of Florida. School enrollment for White girls was 44.4% for Southwest Florida compared to 50.8% for the State of Florida, Black 3 and 4 year old enrollment was lower at 32.3% while Asian girl enrollment was 74.4%.

Table 16

Female School Enrollment Rates by Race, Age 3 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
White females							
3 and 4 years	50.8%	44.4%	35.5%	42.2%	59.2%	34.5%	46.8%
5 to 9 years	95.8%	95.1%	93.7%	95.7%	92.4%	94.5%	95.1%
10 to 14 years	98.2%	98.3%	99.3%	96.5%	100.0%	100.0%	98.8%
15 to 17 years	95.4%	96.5%	96.9%	96.3%	100.0%	91.9%	96.9%
18 and 19 years	75.2%	72.5%	68.3%	71.7%	100.0%	54.1%	74.5%
20 to 24 years	44.7%	38.6%	25.9%	38.6%	0.0%	36.6%	41.6%
25 to 34 years	13.7%	10.0%	16.6%	9.8%	2.2%	0.0%	9.6%
35 years and over	2.5%	2.1%	2.4%	2.2%	0.0%	1.5%	2.0%
Black females							
3 and 4 years	55.1%	32.3%	78.6%	12.6%	0.0%	59.8%	34.6%
5 to 9 years	95.8%	94.8%	100.0%	93.4%	100.0%	100.0%	93.8%
10 to 14 years	98.0%	99.6%	100.0%	98.2%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
15 to 17 years	95.6%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
18 and 19 years	71.5%	63.0%	46.9%	72.6%	0.0%	100.0%	59.8%
20 to 24 years	43.6%	42.2%	38.7%	65.7%	0.0%	26.7%	39.0%
25 to 34 years	19.9%	13.0%	9.4%	22.7%	0.0%	0.0%	10.5%
35 years and over	5.9%	5.7%	4.4%	4.4%	7.7%	5.7%	6.5%
American Indian/ Alaskan Native females							
3 and 4 years	50.4%	100.0%	–	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
5 to 9 years	95.0%	92.7%	–	100.0%	–	–	79.5%
10 to 14 years	98.7%	100.0%	–	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
15 to 17 years	98.4%	100.0%	–	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
18 and 19 years	58.3%	100.0%	–	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
20 to 24 years	46.0%	30.8%	–	100.0%	–	–	0.0%
25 to 34 years	16.8%	20.2%	–	13.2%	–	–	21.4%
35 years and over	6.0%	8.9%	–	16.0%	–	–	3.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Table 16 continued

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Asian females							
3 and 4 years	55.8%	74.4%	0.0%	0.0%	–	–	100.0%
5 to 9 years	96.1%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
10 to 14 years	98.7%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	–	–	100.0%
15 to 17 years	94.8%	92.4%	100.0%	68.0%	–	–	100.0%
18 and 19 years	82.9%	80.5%	28.6%	0.0%	–	–	100.0%
20 to 24 years	61.3%	66.4%	100.0%	63.7%	–	–	63.0%
25 to 34 years	17.3%	7.1%	7.9%	3.1%	–	–	8.5%
35 years and over	3.7%	4.8%	1.7%	2.6%	–	–	6.4%
Some other race females							
3 and 4 years	40.2%	18.7%	0.0%	0.0%	–	50.3%	16.0%
5 to 9 years	94.6%	89.8%	100.0%	84.2%	–	100.0%	89.6%
10 to 14 years	98.5%	97.9%	100.0%	100.0%	–	93.0%	97.3%
15 to 17 years	92.6%	85.5%	46.2%	86.8%	–	100.0%	84.3%
18 and 19 years	59.7%	55.4%	0.0%	80.7%	–	44.7%	50.1%
20 to 24 years	36.8%	23.2%	39.5%	17.1%	–	16.5%	29.5%
25 to 34 years	13.4%	6.3%	6.7%	3.2%	–	5.6%	7.4%
35 years and over	4.2%	4.3%	1.7%	2.6%	–	7.0%	5.0%

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

Females and males in Southwest Florida tend to have lower college or graduate enrollment than the State of Florida. In 2010, Glades County had the lowest percentage of females and males enrolled, whereas Charlotte County had the highest percentage for females enrolled, as shown in Table 17.

Table 17

College or Graduate School Enrollment, Age 15 and Over, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female							
Total Population 15 and over	8,021,290	496,692	73,933	138,220	4,517	13,496	266,526
Total enrolled in college or graduate school	776,344	32,726	5,059	7,351	51	791	19,474
Percent of total female population	9.7%	6.6%	6.8%	5.3%	1.1%	5.9%	7.3%
Age 15 to 17 years	6,586	100	–	–	–	–	100
Age 18 to 24 years	403,528	16,095	1,062	3,390	13	555	11,075
Age 24 to 34 years	193,754	7,312	1,277	1,099	12	13	4,911
Age 35 and older	172,476	9,219	2,720	2,862	26	223	3,388
Male							
Total Population 15 and over	7,534,535	476,488	67,832	132,930	6,084	16,488	253,154
Total enrolled in college or graduate school	584,579	22,564	2,353	6,648	169	315	13,079
Percent of total male population	7.8%	4.7%	3.5%	5.0%	2.8%	1.9%	5.2%
Age 15 to 17 years	3,255	102	–	–	–	–	102
Age 18 to 24 years	344,988	12,844	843	4,118	58	199	7,626
Age 24 to 34 years	129,606	4,732	606	1,442	88	44	2,552
Age 35 and older	106,730	4,886	904	1,088	23	72	2,799

Source: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

School Achievement

Female students tend to outperform male students in reading and underperform male students in math. The level at which girls outperformed boys in reading was shown to be significantly greater than the level at which boys outperformed girls in math. In general, Charlotte County schools had the greatest percentage of students at or above the proficiency level for both subjects, as shown in Table 18.

Table 18

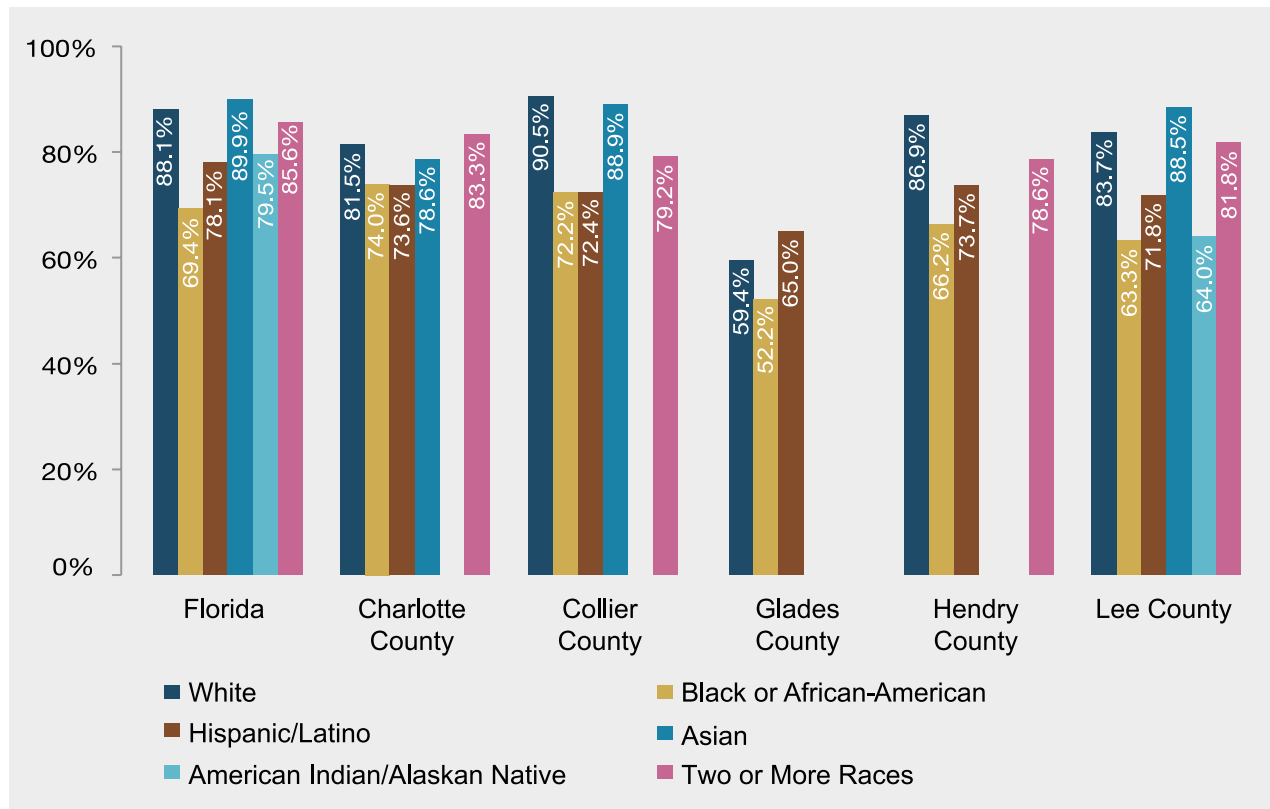
Percent of Students at or Above Proficiency Levels for Reading and Math, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Fourth grade proficiency						
Reading all students	72%	74%	71%	73%	68%	75%
Females	74%	78%	73%	70%	69%	77%
Males	69%	70%	69%	76%	67%	73%
Math all students	74%	78%	70%	81%	71%	75%
Females	73%	79%	68%	75%	70%	74%
Males	75%	76%	73%	86%	73%	77%
Eighth grade proficiency						
Reading all students	55%	58%	56%	57%	37%	57%
Females	59%	62%	60%	52%	37%	59%
Males	52%	55%	52%	63%	37%	54%
Math all students	68%	73%	69%	71%	59%	67%
Females	68%	75%	68%	70%	60%	66%
Males	68%	72%	70%	71%	59%	69%
Tenth grade proficiency						
Reading all students	39%	45%	40%	27%	27%	38%
Females	42%	51%	41%	27%	31%	42%
Males	37%	38%	40%	24%	24%	34%
Math all students	73%	79%	70%	65%	66%	69%
Females	72%	80%	70%	58%	68%	68%
Males	74%	79%	72%	71%	65%	70%

Source: Florida Department of Education

Collier County's graduation rates are similar to the graduation rates for the State of Florida. Figure 1 shows White graduation rates in Collier County to be 90.5%, which are comparable to the State of Florida's rate of 88.1%. Glades County had the lowest graduation rates of all counties in Southwest Florida at 52.2% for the Black population.

Figure 1
Graduation Rates by County, 2010–2011



Source: Florida Department of Education

More females than males graduated from public high schools in all five Southwest Florida counties. In general, 82 more females in Collier County graduated than males in 2010, as shown in Table 19.

Table 19
Florida Public High School Graduation
Outcomes by Gender and Race, 2010

	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females					
Asian	13	19	0	2	18
Black	33	77	2	23	165
Hispanic	28	265	6	95	377
Indian	2	3	0	1	6
Multiracial	16	13	0	1	30
White	448	584	9	70	1,122
Total females	540	961	17	192	1,718
Males					
Asian	12	9	0	0	34
Black	38	69	4	14	153
Hispanic	25	239	3	76	326
Indian	1	2	0	0	1
Multiracial	25	13	0	0	25
White	418	547	9	49	1,019
Total males	519	879	16	139	1,558
County totals	1,059.00	1,840.00	33.00	331.00	3,276.00

Source: Florida Department of Education

Boys receive significantly more school disciplinary actions than girls. In elementary school, boys receive anywhere from three to six times as many in-school suspensions than girls across the five counties, with 3.12% of boys being suspended versus .97% of girls being suspended in Southwest Florida. The trend continues for middle school and high school students, although, the gap narrows with boys receiving approximately twice as many disciplinary actions as girls, as shown in Tables 21 and 22.

Table 20
Percent of Disciplinary Action: In-School
Suspensions, 2007–2008

	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Elementary school total	2.07	0.98	2.65	17.98	3.21	1.54
Female	0.97	0.27	1.21	8.15	1.64	0.77
Male	3.12	1.66	4.00	27.16	4.65	2.29
Middle school total	19.52	19.93	19.84	15.45	12.26	20.04
Female	13.32	13.38	12.79	8.67	8.33	14.16
Male	25.53	26.49	26.75	21.05	15.94	25.7
High school total	21.13	15.47	21.91	1.51	24.31	22.14
Female	15.89	11.40	16.20	0.59	19.77	16.74
Male	26.33	19.55	27.53	2.45	29.12	27.5

Source: Florida Department of Education

Table 21
Percent of Disciplinary Actions: Out-of-
School Suspension, 2007–2008

	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Elementary school total	2.01	2.66	0.22	3.94	3.55	2.61
Female	0.78	0.73	0.06	1.36	1.34	1.09
Male	3.18	4.49	0.37	6.35	5.6	4.09
Middle school total	11.98	11.9	4.97	20.68	15.28	15.27
Female	7.70	7.14	2.98	14.45	11.15	9.94
Male	16.13	16.67	6.92	25.84	19.15	20.39
High school total	9.68	10.3	5.16	27.11	23.28	10.46
Female	6.50	7.26	2.85	20.71	15.83	7.16
Male	12.85	13.34	7.42	33.74	31.15	13.73

Source: Florida Department of Education

Table 22

Percent of Disciplinary Actions: Expulsions, 2007–2008

	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Elementary school total	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0
Middle school total	0.030	0.02	0	1.83	0	0.01
Female	0.006	0.05	0	0.58	0	0.02
Male	0.054	0	0	2.87	0	0
High school total	0.042	0.05	0	0.9	0	0.06
Female	0.018	0.07	0	0.59	0	0.09
Male	0.067	0.03	0	1.23	0	0.02

Source: Florida Department of Education

Literacy

In general, more females than males complete Adult Basic Education Literacy. In Southwest Florida, 58.1% of the completions were by females with Asian and American Indian females having a significantly greater completion rate than males, as shown in Table 23.

Table 23

Percent of Adult Basic Education Literacy Completion, 2009–2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Asian							
Female	1.4%	1.2%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	1.1%
Male	0.9%	0.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
American Indian							
Female	0.3%	0.6%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	0.3%
Male	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Black							
Female	18.0%	15.9%	19.5%	14.1%	0.0%	8.6%	16.9%
Male	19.6%	10.7%	9.0%	13.2%	0.0%	4.3%	12.9%
Hispanic							
Female	10.9%	19.7%	6.5%	32.2%	0.0%	49.6%	13.4%
Male	10.6%	13.4%	8.5%	20.7%	0.0%	16.2%	12.9%
White							
Female	16.8%	20.1%	3.3%	7.4%	0.0%	11.1%	20.4%
Male	19.9%	16.5%	1.9%	10.7%	0.0%	6.0%	20.6%
Multi-Racial							
Female	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.8%
Male	0.8%	0.7%	0.5%	1.7%	0.0%	0.9%	0.5%

Source: Florida Department of Education

Political Participation

A limited number of females hold political office in Southwest Florida. In 2010, six females were country commissioners and five females held elected judgeships in Lee County. In addition, there were four females holding State of Florida House seats, but there no females from Southwest Florida in the U.S. House or Senate, as shown in Table 24.

Table 24

Elected and Appointed Female Officials by County, 2010

	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
County Commissioners	25	5	5	5	5	5
Females	6	1	2	1	1	1
Mayors (all cities)	11					
Females	–					
Judges (Court of Common Pleas)	19	3	6	1	1	8
Females	5	–	1	–	–	4
State of Florida House of Representatives	10	0	4	1	1	1
Females	4	–	–	–	–	–
State of Florida Senate	6					
Females	3	2	1	1	2	1
U.S. House of Representatives	5					
Females	0					

Source: Federal, State, County, and Municipal websites

More men than women are likely to represent the State of Florida in Congress. Congressional Districts 13, 14, 16, 23, and 25 are either entirely or partially located in the Southwest Florida area, however, women represent none of these districts. There are 25 congressional seats in the State of Florida, and in 2012, women filled only six of those seats.

Females account for a greater percentage of the registered voters than men in every county throughout Southwest Florida. Glades County showed the greatest difference in voter registrations between females and males at 14.3%. Table 25 illustrates voter registration figures by gender and shows Charlotte County to be the only county to have reported a greater percentage of voter registrations for females than the State of Florida.

Table 25

Florida Voter Registration by Gender, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total citizens	9,611,955	583,779	82,216	163,026	5,441	17,942	315,154
Total females	8,698,188	526,865	80,087	140,064	5,021	15,560	286,133
Number registered	5,884,373	348,826	60,165	93,944	3,335	8,603	182,779
Percent registered	67.7%	66.2%	75.1%	67.1%	66.4%	55.3%	63.9%
Total males	8,083,660	492,293	74,721	129,339	6,026	15,007	267,200
Total citizens	8,260,243	502,632	74,729	134,528	6,026	15,007	272,342
Number registered	4,987,944	304,887	53,065	81,510	3,141	7,325	159,846
Percent registered	60.4%	60.7%	71.0%	60.6%	52.1%	48.8%	58.7%

Source: Florida Voter File 2010: American Community Survey, 2006–2010, 5-year estimates

In general, Southwest Florida has a significantly lower percentage of registered Democrats than the State of Florida. As detailed in Table 26, Glades and Hendry Counties reported the highest percentages of Democrats voting in the 2010 general election, while Collier and Lee Counties reported the highest percentage of Republican voters.

Table 26

Registered Voters: November General Election, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total females	9,611,955	583,779	82,216	163,026	5,441	17,942	315,154
Number registered	5,884,373	526,865	60,165	93,944	3,335	8,603	182,779
Number registered Democrat	2,977,695	118,009	21,584	26,919	2,004	4,875	62,627
Percent registered Democrat	50.6%	22.4%	35.9%	28.7%	60.1%	56.7%	34.3%
Number registered Republican	2,211,356	152,707	24,709	46,198	899	2,610	78,291
Percent registered Republican	37.6%	29.0%	41.1%	49.2%	27.0%	30.3%	42.8%
Total males	9,189,355	568,497	77,762	158,494	7,443	21,198	303,600
Number registered	4,987,944	304,887	53,065	81,510	3,141	7,325	159,846
Number registered Democrat	2,111,869	82,509	15,444	18,244	1,693	3,667	43,461
Percent registered Democrat	42.3%	27.1%	29.1%	22.4%	53.9%	50.1%	27.2%
Number registered Republican	2,149,859	145,810	23,685	43,374	953	2,565	75,233
Percent registered Republican	43.1%	47.8%	44.6%	53.2%	30.3%	35.0%	47.1%

Source: party by county: <http://election.dos.state.fl.us/NVRA/registration.asp>
<http://election.dos.state.fl.us/voting/voter-turnout.shtml>

Homeownership

Southwest Florida residents show a higher percentage of homeownership rates when compared with the State of Florida. In 2010, Charlotte County had the highest overall homeownership rate at 79.7%. However, in Hendry County, the rates of homeownership for both female-headed households and male-headed households were shown to be below the rates for the State of Florida. See Table 27.

Table 27
Homeownership Rates by Family Type, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Overall homeownership rate	67.4%	79.7%	72.2%	77.7%	69.2%	71.0%
Family households						
Female householder (no husband present)	13.5%	8.5%	8.6%	9.0%	15.2%	10.3%
With own children under 18	7.1%	4.1%	4.9%	4.9%	9.0%	5.8%
Male householder (no wife present)	5.0%	3.4%	4.3%	6.0%	8.2%	4.6%
With own children under 18	2.3%	1.6%	2.1%	2.6%	4.5%	2.3%
Married-couple family	46.6%	53.4%	54.2%	52.0%	50.3%	51.0%
With own children under 18	16.6%	9.5%	15.1%	14.2%	22.8%	14.2%
Non-Family households						
Female householder living alone	15.4%	16.9%	16.0%	11.6%	8.8%	15.2%
Male householder living alone	11.9%	11.6%	4.4%	14.1%	10.6%	11.5%

Source: U.S. Census 2010, Summary File 2

A higher percentage of females than males in Southwest Florida are approved for government loans. Tables 28–31 illustrate the disposition of applications for government loans for various population demographics. In general, White applicants were shown to have the highest approval percentage by race/ethnicity, followed by Hispanic and then Black applicants. In terms of income, applicants with less than 50% of the median income were denied loan approval 23.9% of the time, whereas applicants with 120% or more of the median income were denied 17.3% of the time.

Table 28

Disposition of Applications for Government Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Income and Gender of Applicant, Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
American Indian/Alaska Native (Total)	9	4 (44.4%)		5 (55.6%)		
Female	2	1 (50%)		1 (50%)		
Male	7	3 (42.9%)		4 (57.1%)		
Joint (Male/Female)						
Asian (Total)	30	13 (43.4%)		10 (33.3%)	7	
Female	10	5 (50%)		4 (40%)	1	
Male	9	4 (44.4%)		2 (22.2%)	3	
Joint (Male/Female)	11	4 (36.4%)		4 (36.4%)	3	
Black (Total)	335	199 (59.4%)	16	75 (22.4%)	36	9
Female	143	88 (61.5%)	5	35 (24.5%)	13	2
Male	156	92 (59%)	9	30 (19.2%)	20	5
Joint (Male/Female)	35	19 (54.3%)	2	9 (25.7%)	3	2
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Island (Total)	9	4 (44.4%)		2 (22.2%)	1	2
Female	3	2 (66.7%)		1 (33.3%)		
Male	4	1 (25%)		0 (0%)	1	2
Joint (Male/Female)	2	1 (50%)		1 (50%)		
White (Total)	3449	2230 (64.7%)	144	644 (18.7%)	338	93
Female	1132	736 (65%)	42	215 (19%)	110	29
Male	1555	977 (62.8%)	67	319 (20.5%)	156	36
Joint (Male/Female)	753	512 (68%)	35	108 (14.3%)	70	28

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 29

Disposition of Applications for Government Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Race and Gender of Applicant, Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
Two or more minority races (Total)	1	1 (100%)				
Female						
Male	1	1 (100%)				
Joint (Male/Female)						
Asian (Total)	29	17 (58.6%)	2	5 (17.2%)	2	3
Female	1				1	
Male	4			1 (25%)		3
Joint (Male/Female)	24	17 (70.8%)	2	4 (16.7%)	1	
Black (Total)	418	237 (56.7%)	14	107 (25.6%)	50	10
Female	83	53 (63.9%)		24 (28.9%)	5	1
Male	109	63 (57.8%)	7	28 (25.7%)	11	
Joint (Male/Female)	62	43 (69.4%)		11 (17.5%)	5	3
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Island (Total)	900	547 (60.8%)	33	207 (23%)	83	30
Female	316	196 (62%)	11	71 (22.5%)	26	12
Male	450	262 (58.2%)	17	114 (25.3%)	42	15
Joint (Male/Female)	134	89 (66.4%)	5	22 (16.4%)	15	3
White (Total)	2,923	1,890 (64.7%)	126	536 (18.3%)	295	76
Female	983	636 (64.7%)	36	190 (19.3%)	102	19
Male	1,292	818 (63.6%)	61	248 (19.2%)	135	30
Joint (Male/Female)	639	431 (67.4%)	29	96 (15%)	56	27

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 30

Disposition of Applications for Government Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Income and Gender of Applicant, Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
Joint (Hispanic/Not Hispanic)	57	34 (59.6%)	4	10 (17.5%)	8	2
Female	2	1 (50%)		1 (50%)		
Male	1				1	
Joint (Male/Female)	54	33 (61.1%)	4	9 (16.7%)	6	2
Ethnicity Not Available (Total)	400	234 (58.5%)	13	95 (23.8%)	49	9
Female	73	52 (71.2%)		18 (24.7%)	2	1
Male	102	61 (59.8%)	5	22 (21.6%)	13	1
Joint (Male/Female)	60	43 (71.7%)	1	10 (16.7%)	5	1

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 31

Disposition of Applications for Government Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Income and Gender of Applicant, Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
Minority Status						
White Non-Hispanic (Total)	2,503	1,646 (65.8%)	107	440 (17.6%)	248	62
Female	825	540 (65.5%)	31	151 (18.3%)	86	17
Male	1,104	713 (64.6%)	50	207 (18.8%)	111	23
Joint (Male/Female)	567	390 (68.8%)	26	80 (14.1%)	49	22
Others, Including Hispanic (Total)	1,346	808 (60%)	54	308 (22.9%)	135	43
Female	471	289 (61.4%)	16	111 (23.6%)	41	14
Male	624	360 (57.7%)	26	150 (24%)	66	22
Joint (Male/Female)	252	159 (63.1%)	12	46 (18.3%)	28	7
Income of Applicants						
Less than 50% of MSA/MD Median	1,200	724 (60.3%)	37	287 (23.9%)	128	24
50–79% of MSA/MD Median	1,474	953 (64.7%)	59	276 (18.%)	147	39
80–99% of MSA/MD Median	553	345 (62.4%)	29	101 (18.3%)	63	15
100–119% of MSA/MD Median	314	213 (67.8%)	11	52 (16.6%)	32	6
120% or More of MSA/MD Median	687	454 (66.1%)	37	119 (17.3%)	60	17
Income Not Available	52	16 (30.8%)	3	13 (25%)	4	16
Total	4,280	2,705	176	848	434	117

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

A higher percentage of females in Southwest Florida are approved for conventional loans. Tables 32–35 illustrate the disposition of applications for conventional loans for various population demographics. White applicants not only showed the highest application approval percentage of any race, but were also responsible for the most applications received at 6,052 (females: 1,055, males: 1,788). In terms of income, applicants with 100%–119% of the median income had 18.9% of their applications denied, whereas applicants with 120% and over had 14.8% of their applications denied.

Table 32

**Disposition of Applications for Conventional Loans, 1-4 Family Homes,
by Income and Gender of Applicant, Southwest Florida 2010**

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
American Indian/Alaska Native (Total)	15	2 (13.3%)		6 (40%)	6	1
Female	3	1 (33.3%)		1 (33.3%)	1	
Male	5	1 (20%)		2 (40%)	1	1
Joint (Male/Female)	6			3 (50%)	3	
Asian (Total)	83	51 (61.4%)	5	16 (19.3%)	7	4
Female	26	12 (46.2%)	2	7 (26.9%)	2	3
Male	41	31 (75.6%)	2	6 (14.6%)	2	
Joint (Male/Female)	15	7 (46.7%)	1	3 (20%)	3	1
Black (Total)	174	80 (46%)	15	48 (27.6%)	26	5
Female	63	30 (47.6%)	8	17 (27%)	5	3
Male	71	33 (46.5%)	7	15 (21.1%)	15	1
Joint (Male/Female)	38	16 (42.1%)		16 (42.1%)	5	1
Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Island (Total)	8	5 (62.5%)		3 (37.5%)		
Female	1	1 (100%)				
Male	5	2 (40%)		3 (60%)		
Joint (Male/Female)	2	2 (100%)				
White (Total)	6052	3953	331	1033	610	125
Female	1055	671	65	213	80	26
Male	1788	1065	112	357	225	29
Joint (Male/Female)	3197	2210	153	462	304	68

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 33

Disposition of Applications for Conventional Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Income and Gender of Applicant Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
2 or More Minority Races (Total)	1	–	–	1 (100%)	–	–
Female	–	–	–	–	–	–
Male	1	–	–	1 (100%)	–	–
Joint (Male/Female)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Joint (White/Minority Race) (Total)	64	34 (53.1%)	120	14 (21.9%)	14	1
Female	2	1 (50%)	–	–	1	–
Male	1	–	–	1 (100%)	–	–
Joint (Male/Female)	61	33 (54.1%)	120	13 (21.3%)	13	1
Race Not Available (Total)	964	561 (58.2%)	12370	187 (19.4%)	131	35
Female	94	47 (50%)	427	24 (25.5%)	15	4
Male	160	97 (60.6%)	658	33 (20.6%)	19	3
Joint (Male/Female)	211	139 (65.9%)	1203	39 (18.5%)	19	9
Hispanic (Total)	383	202 (52.7%)	27	102 (26.6%)	39	13
Female	100	54 (54%)	7	26 (26%)	6	7
Male	179	87 (48.6%)	13	51 (28.5%)	24	4
Joint (Male/Female)	104	61 (58.7%)	7	25 (24%)	9	2
Not Hispanic (Total)	5,931	3,868 (65.2%)	318	1,011 (17%)	610	124
Female	1,051	659 (62.7%)	70	213 (20.3%)	83	26
Male	1,745	1,052 (60.3%)	108	337 (19.3%)	222	26
Joint (Male/Female)	3,121	2,150 (68.9%)	139	459 (14.7%)	303	70

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 34

**Disposition of Applications for Conventional Loans, 1-4 Family Homes,
by Income and Gender of Applicant Southwest Florida 2010**

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
Joint (Hispanic/Not Hispanic)	80	51 (63.8%)	5	12 (15%)	8	4
Female	2	2 (100%)		0		
Male	1	0		1 (100%)		
Joint (Male/Female)	75	48 (64%)	5	11 (14.7%)	7	4
Ethnicity Not Available (Total)	967	565 (58.4%)	52	183 (18.9%)	137	30
Female	91	48 (52.7%)	2	23 (25.3%)	15	3
Male	147	90 (61.2%)	8	29 (19.7%)	16	4
Joint (Male/Female)	230	148 (64.3%)	9	41 (17.8%)	28	4

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Table 35

Disposition of Applications for Conventional Loans, 1-4 Family Homes, by Income and Gender of Applicant Southwest Florida 2010

Race and Gender of Applicant	Applications Received	Loans Originated	Applications Approved But Not Accepted	Applications Denied	Applications Withdrawn	Files Closed as Incomplete
Minority Status						
White Non-Hispanic (Total)	5,558	3,679 (66.2%)	299	915 (16.5%)	556	109
Female	951	611 (64.2%)	60	187 (19.7%)	73	20
Male	1,604	977 (60.9%)	101	304 (19%)	198	24
Joint (Male/Female)	2,992	2,085 (69.7%)	137	423 (14.1%)	284	63
Others, Including Hispanic (Total)	785	414 (52.7%)	50	198 (25.2%)	95	28
Female	194	100 (51.5%)	16	50 (25.8%)	15	13
Male	292	146 (50%)	20	78 (26.7%)	42	6
Joint (Male/Female)	294	165 (56.1%)	14	70 (23.8%)	36	9
Income of Applicants						
Less than 50% of MSA/MD Median	538	277 (51.5%)	38	164 (30.5%)	49	10
50–79% of MSA/MD Median	975	583 (59.8%)	54	221 (22.7%)	100	17
80–99% of MSA/MD Median	618	358 (57.9%)	44	125 (20.2%)	73	18
100–119% of MSA/MD Median	599	376 (62.8%)	26	113 (18.9%)	69	15
120% or More of MSA/MD Median	4,431	2,981 (67.3%)	237	656 (14.8%)	473	84
Income Not Available	200	111 (55.5%)	3	29 (14.5%)	30	27
Total	7,361	4,686 (63.7%)	402	1,308 (17.8%)	794	171

Source: Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, Home Mortgage Disclosure Act

Business Ownership and Leadership

The percentage of women-owned firms in Southwest Florida is similar to the percentage of women-owned firms statewide. Women-owned firms comprise 26.0% of the businesses in Southwest Florida as compared to 28.9% for the State of Florida. In 2007, \$3,782,352,000 was generated from sales and receipts of woman-owned firms in the region, which represented approximately 5% of Florida's overall sales and receipts. See Table 36.

Table 36
Women-Owned Firms, 2007

	Florida	Southwest Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Women-owned firms	581,096	31,245	3,690	10,262	104	–	17,189
Percent of total firms	28.9%	26.0%	26.4%	26.8%	29.4%	–	26.5%
Sales and receipts (\$1,000)	76,502,545	3,782,352	529,601	1,236,019	1,029	–	2,015,703
Number employed	71,667	3801	–	1,641	4	–	2,156

Source: U.S. Census, 2007

Southwest Florida has a greater percentage of women directors than in the State of Florida. Table 37 shows that two-thirds of all companies in Southwest Florida employed at least one woman director, whereas the overall state figures for Florida indicate that only 56.0% of firms have women directors. Further, Southwest Florida companies showed a higher percentage of board seats held by women than companies statewide.

Table 37
Women Board of Directors, 2010

	Florida	Southwest Florida
Number of companies	100	21
Percent of companies with women directors	56%	66.7%
Number of women directors	76	18
Percent of board seats held by women	8.8%	9.7%

Source: Women Executive Leadership, Report, Florida Census of Women Directors and Executive Officers, Fort Lauderdale, Florida

More to Learn about Achievement and Autonomy

1. What programs are available to assist girls who drop out of high school?
2. What percentage of women entering graduate school complete advanced degrees?
3. What are the advanced degrees received by women in Southwest Florida?
4. What are the challenges faced by women who want to obtain advanced or professional degrees?
5. What programs are available to improve literacy in Southwest Florida?
6. What are the leadership roles of women in the political parties in Southwest Florida?
7. What is the home affordability index for Southwest Florida?
8. How many female and male residents live in Public Housing or receive Section 8 Vouchers?
9. How have approval rates for home and business loans changed since stricter credit requirements have been implemented?
10. What are the opportunities for women and girls to mentor with business women and receive counseling on career choices?
11. What percentage of Small Business Administration loans are obtained by women?
12. What number of organizations in Southwest Florida are managed or owned by women?
13. How many women are involved in small business and have received small business loans?
14. What entrepreneurial programs are available to assist women and girls?

Assets to Build on and Opportunities for Change

Educational Attainment

Assets

- More females graduate high school than males (Table 1).
- In Southwest Florida, more Females of all age groups except 65 and over have obtained an advanced degree (Tables 6 and 7).
- Female students tend to outperform male students in reading (Table 18).
- Girls have less out-of-school suspensions than boys. (Table 21).

Opportunities

- In three of the five largest countries in Southwest Florida, a greater percentage of males than females 18 and older earn advanced degrees (bachelor’s, graduate and professional) (Table 5).
- Overall, Females in Southwest Florida have a lower college or graduate enrollment percentage than in the State of Florida (Table 17).

Literacy

Assets

- More than one-half of the Adult Basic Education Literacy completions were from females (Table 23).

Opportunities

- Racially, Whites, Hispanics, and Blacks have a lower completion rate of Adult Basic Education Literacy than Asian and American Indians.

Political Participation

Assets

- Nearly 7% more females have registered to vote than males in Southwest Florida (Table 25).

Opportunities

- A limited number of females hold political office in Southwest Florida (Table 24).
- Only 66.2% of women in Southwest Florida are registered to vote (Table 25).

Homeownership

Assets

- Southwest Florida has a higher homeownership rate in comparison to Florida (Table 27).
- Females have been approved for Government and Conventional Loans at a higher rate than males (Table 28–35).

Opportunities

- Overall, Southwest Florida homeownership is less than the Florida rate for “Female householder (no husband present)” (Table 27).
- The approval rates for government and conventional loans are lower for minorities than Whites.

Business Ownership and Leadership

Assets

- Southwest Florida has a greater percentage of companies with female directors than the State of Florida (Table 37).

Opportunities

- Only 26% of firms in Southwest Florida are female-owned (Table 36).



Health and Well-Being

This section of the report examines information on the health and well-being of women and girls in Southwest Florida. Physical and mental health has a great impact on women's daily lives in the five counties of Southwest Florida. The topics discussed in this section include:

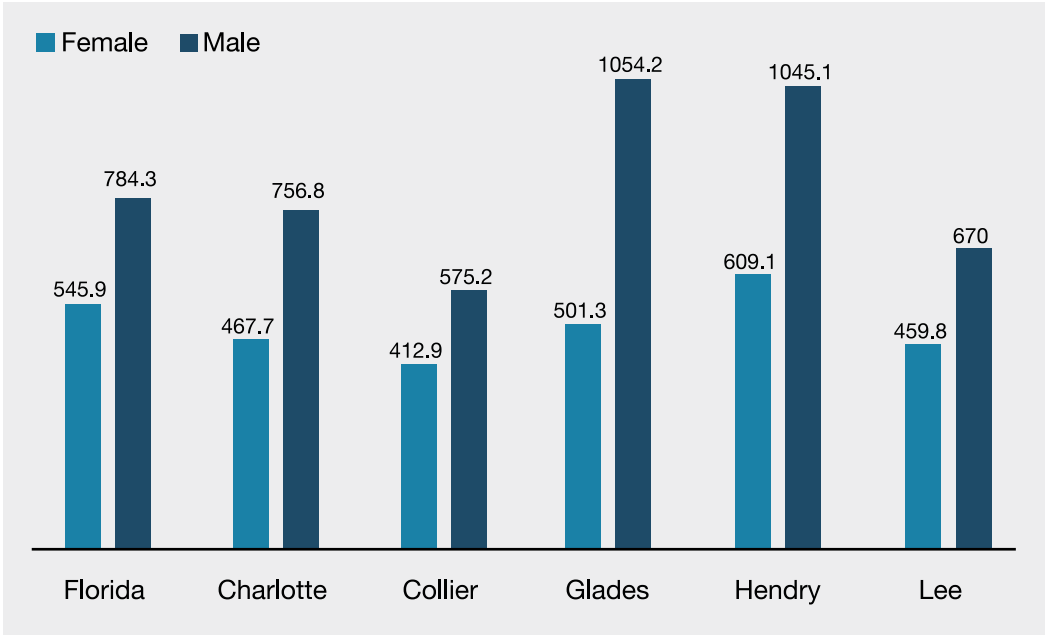
- Death rates and causes of death
- Sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS
- Mental health
- Wellness activities
- Reproductive health
- Disabilities
- Access to health care and health insurance
- Violence and crime

Death Rates and Causes of Death

Females in Southwest Florida tend to live longer than males. In all age groups, females have lower death rates than males in Southwest Florida. In all five Southwest Florida counties, female death rates ranged from 412.9 to 609.1 per 100,000 females, which is lower when compared with male death rates ranging from 575.2 to 1,054.2 per 100,000 males, as shown in Figure 1.

Nationally, among the four major race-sex groups, White females had the highest life expectancy at birth (81.3), followed by Black females (78.0), White males (76.5), and Black males (71.8) (National Vital Statistics Report 2010).

Figure 1
Female & Male Death Rates per 100,000 Population, 2010



Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

In general, there are fewer female deaths than male deaths for each age group except for individuals age 85 and over, as shown in Table 1. Table 1 provides resident death levels for all causes for the State of Florida and each Southwest Florida County for the year 2010 by gender and age.

Table 1
Resident Deaths From All Causes, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Females	82,968	1,019	1,360	34	111	2,817
<1 year	626	3	10	1	0	8
1–4 years	113	0	0	0	1	9
5–14 years	134	0	0	0	0	4
15–24 years	478	2	7	0	0	12
25–34 years	890	5	12	0	1	19
35–44 years	1,719	18	10	2	4	51
45–54 years	4,612	51	49	3	10	130
55–64 years	7,733	93	96	4	14	239
65–74 years	11,830	134	178	7	21	412
75–84 years	21,375	260	373	8	25	776
85+ years	33,457	453	625	9	35	1,157
Unknown	1	0	0	0	0	0
Total Males	89,511	1,230	1,501	76	178	3,145
<1 year	771	2	10	1	0	19
1–4 years	168	3	4	0	0	5
5–14 years	149	2	3	0	0	6
15–24 years	1,317	9	14	1	6	45
25–34 years	1,925	15	33	0	7	69
35–44 years	2,743	29	37	3	6	80
45–54 years	7,332	86	77	4	16	226
55–64 years	12,690	129	153	8	29	398
65–74 years	16,575	211	221	14	33	601
75–84 years	23,739	368	472	25	56	891
85+ years	22,096	375	477	20	25	805
Unknown	6	1	0	0	0	0

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

White females tend to have lower age-adjusted death rates. Table 2 shows age-adjusted death rates by race and ethnicity where overall, females had a lower age-adjusted death rate than males.

Table 2
Age-Adjusted Death Rates by Race/
Ethnicity per 100,000 Population, 2009

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female count	81,537	1,018	1,282	50	129	2,617
Rate	556.6	499.9	418.2	604.7	708.0	497.9
White count	71,877	977	1,237	44	100	2,485
Rate	542.5	505.3	409.5	557.8	631.1	493.1
Black count	8,975	35	40	–	25	123
Rate	706.5	455.0	566.8	–	1,128.2	671.2
Male count	88,387	1,174	1,416	61	167	3,118
Rate	809.1	741.3	536.8	777.0	905.1	681.2
White count	77,932	1,38	1,349	53	131	2,942
Rate	795.1	755.5	525.9	750.1	819.3	714.7
Black count	9,751	35	61	–	32	157
Rate	1,030.1	659.8	972.7	–	1,582.2	1,101.9

Source: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention

The age-adjusted death rate for females is lower than the rate for males at the state level. Table 3 shows the age-adjusted death rate for females at 545.9 per 100,000, whereas the rate for males was higher at 784.3 per 100,000. In Southwest Florida, Collier County had the lowest female age-adjusted death rate at 412.9 while Hendry County had the highest at 609.1. Death rates for females nationwide were also lower than rates for males, with the female rate reported at 634.3 per 100,000, and the male rate reported at 886.2 per 100,000 (National Vital Statistics Report 2010).

Table 3
Age-Adjusted Death Rates per
100,000 Population, 2010

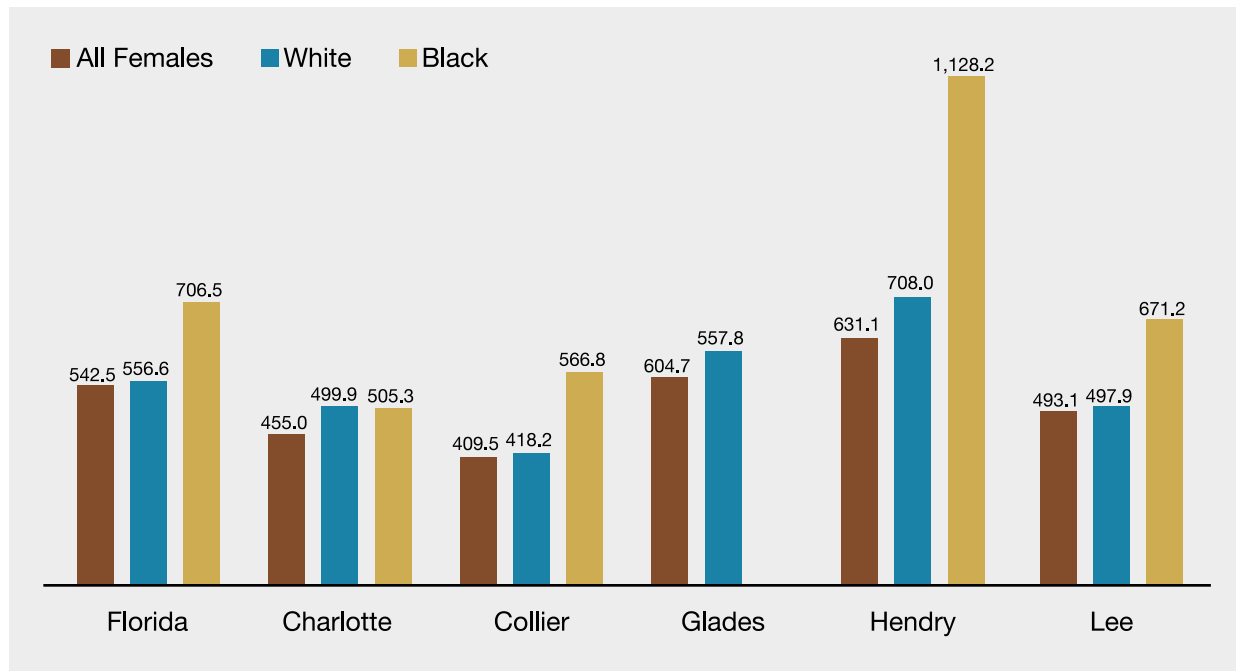
	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females	545.9	467.7	412.9	501.3	609.1	459.8
Males	784.3	756.8	575.2	1054.2	1045.1	670.0

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

White females live longer than Black females in Southwest Florida. In Lee County, which has the largest Black population of all the counties in Southwest Florida, the death rates for Black females was 671.2 per 100,000 versus 1,101.9 for Black males in 2009, as shown previously in Table 2. Age-adjusted rates for Black females were higher than White females not only in the U.S. and the State of Florida, but also in all Southwest Florida counties except Charlotte and Glades, where the rates were generally much lower than rates for Black males, as shown in Figure 2.

Figure 1

Female Age-Adjusted Death Rates per 100,000 Population by Race, 2009



Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Men in Southwest Florida are more likely to commit suicide than women. Suicide counts for males are more than triple the counts for females in all counties in Southwest Florida. Twenty-four females and eighty-seven males committed suicide in Lee County during 2010, as shown in Table 4.

Table 4
Death from Suicide by Gender
and Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total	2,753	31	47	4	2	111
White	2,575	30	47	4	2	106
Black	122	0	0	0	0	3
Other	56	1	0	0	0	2
Hispanic	284	0	3	1	0	14
Non-Hispanic	2,441	31	44	3	2	97
Females	612	6	7	0	1	24
Males	2,140	25	40	4	1	87

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

The age-adjusted death rate from breast and cervical cancer for the state is 23.4, which is higher than anywhere in Southwest Florida. Lee County has the lowest figure of 18.4, compared to Charlotte County's figure of 23.0. In Southwest Florida, 174 women died from breast or cervical cancers in 2010, and a total of 21 females died from cervical cancer in 2008 to 2010. A total of 547 women died from breast and cervical cancer in Southwest Florida counties, as shown in Table 5.

Table 5
Breast & Cervical Cancer Age-Adjusted
Death Rates, 2008–2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females						
Count	9,131	112	151	5	11	268
Rate	23.4	23.0	19.1	22.8	21.3	18.4

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Females in Southwest Florida are less likely to die from heart disease, cancer, or unintentional injuries than men. Heart disease, cancer, and chronic lower respiratory disease are the top three leading causes of death in Southwest Florida for both females and males, as shown in Table 6. The number of men dying from heart disease is larger than the number of women dying from the disease. Table 7 shows the number of deaths by gender, leading causes, and race/ethnicity.

Table 6
Major Causes of Death (All Ages) by Gender, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females						
Heart disease	18,906	229	299	4	32	650
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	18,821	243	336	9	24	663
Chronic lower respiratory disease	5,383	70	103	1	6	205
Unintentional injuries	3,147	15	74	2	3	128
Males						
Heart disease	22,327	299	353	24	38	795
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	22,056	322	371	17	51	782
Chronic lower respiratory disease	4,882	74	87	8	12	180
Unintentional injuries	5,496	55	103	4	15	207

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Table 7

Leading Causes of Death by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Heart disease						
Total	41,241	528	652	28	70	1,445
White	36,631	507	633	26	60	1,377
Black	4,049	18	17	1	9	56
Other	541	3	2	1	1	10
Hispanic	4,763	8	37	0	10	70
Non-Hispanic	36,286	518	611	28	60	1,370
Female	18,906	229	299	4	32	650
Male	22,327	299	353	24	38	795
Malignant neoplasms (cancer)						
Total	40,883	565	707	26	75	1,445
White	36,244	538	682	24	64	1,362
Black	4,021	20	18	2	10	75
Other	611	7	7	0	1	7
Hispanic	4,311	14	45	0	12	65
Non-Hispanic	36,486	548	662	26	63	1,375
Female	18,821	243	336	9	24	663
Male	22,056	322	371	17	51	782
Chronic lower respiratory diseases						
Total	10,268	144	190	9	18	385
White	9,683	144	188	8	16	376
Black	498	0	2	1	2	7
Other	85	0	0	0	0	2
Hispanic	842	2	8	0	0	11
Non-Hispanic	9,382	142	181	9	18	373
Female	5,383	70	103	1	6	205
Male	4,882	74	87	8	12	180
Unintentional injuries						
Total	8,644	70	177	6	18	335
White	7,651	67	163	5	9	315
Black	805	2	8	0	5	18
Other	178	1	6	1	4	2
Hispanic	1,015	1	13	0	4	28
Non-Hispanic	7,533	69	164	6	14	307
Female	3,147	15	74	2	3	128
Male	5,496	55	103	4	15	207

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Disease Prevalence

Females in the State of Florida are less likely to be diagnosed with cancer than men. During 2008, the number of new cancer cases reported for Florida females was 49,456, while the number for males was higher at 55,634 cases, as shown in Table 8. During this period, the county with the highest age-adjusted cancer incident rate in Southwest Florida was Charlotte County at 448 per 100,000 whereas the average for the State of Florida was 441 per 100,000, as shown in Table 9. From 2003–2007, age-adjusted cancer death rates for the State of Florida were 145 per 100,000 females as compared with 211 per 100,000 for males (American Cancer Society, Cancer Facts & Figures, 2011).

Table 8
Number of New Cancer Cases, 2008

Florida	
Female	49,456
Rate	388.2
Male	55,634
Rate	503.1

Source: Florida Department of Health

Table 9
Age-Adjusted Cancer Incident Rates, 2007

Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
441.2	447.7	399.8	339.0	384.5	426.6

Source: University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, Florida Cancer Data System, Florida Annual Cancer Report

Almost 800 Southwest Florida women were affected by breast cancer from 2004 to 2008 with an incidence rate of approximately 100 per 100,000, as shown in Tables 10 and 11. Black women in Charlotte, Collier, and Lee Counties were shown to have a lower incidence rate of breast cancer when compared to White women. According to the National Cancer Institute and the National Centers for Health Statistics, Black women living in Lee County had an annual breast cancer incidence rate of 66.2 per 100,000, which is lower when compared with White women's annual incidence rate of 105.2 per 100,000.

Table 10
Breast Cancer Incident Rates per 100,000, All Ages, 2004–2008

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All women	113.6	101.6	95.2	59.3	99.3	103.6
White female (includes Hispanic)	114.9	97.8	91.8	62.1	97.3	105.2
Black female (Includes Hispanic)	102.3	93.8	59.1	–	–	66.2
Hispanic	99.4	–	78.8	–	–	93.1
Asian Pacific (includes Hispanic)	55.4	–	–	–	–	–
American Indian/Alaskan Native	40.6	–	–	–	–	–

Source: National Cancer Institute

Table 11
Breast Cancer Average Annual Count, All Ages, 2004–2008

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
All women	12,924	143	215	5	16	414
White female (includes Hispanic)	11,331	132	198	4	13	394
Black female (Includes Hispanic)	1,290	5	5	< 3	< 3	12
Hispanic	1,687	< 3	17	< 3	< 3	25
Asian Pacific (includes Hispanic)	128	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3
American Indian/AK Native	14	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3	< 3

Source: National Cancer Institute

Women in Southwest Florida tend to have lower rates of hypertension than men. Hypertension or high blood pressure has been diagnosed in 32.2% of women and 36.5% of men in the State of Florida, as shown in Table 12. In Southwest Florida, women with the lowest percentage of diagnosed hypertension reside in Collier County at 29.2%, and the highest percentage resides in Glades County with 56.3%. Hendry County reports that 44.7% of women were diagnosed with hypertension in 2010. According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “African-American females develop high blood pressure more often, and at an earlier age, than white females in the U.S.” (45.7% versus 35.3%, respectively). According to national figures, more Black females than males are living with the condition. Southwest Florida data is not available to compare hypertension among women by race or ethnicity.

Women in Southwest Florida are less likely than women statewide or nationally to be diagnosed with diabetes. Only 9.2% of Florida women had diabetes, when compared with 11.7% of Florida men, as shown in Table 12. Hendry County reported a relatively high percentage of women with diabetes at 15.1%. The lowest percentage of women with diabetes lived in Collier County with 6.2%. Nationwide, 12.6 million or 10.8% of women were diagnosed with diabetes, whereas 13 million or 11.8% of men were diagnosed in 2010 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-National Diabetes Fact Sheet).

Table 12
Chronic Disease Prevalence: Percentage of Adults
with Diagnosed Hypertension and Diabetes, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Hypertension						
Female	32.2	35.6	29.2	56.3	44.7	31.4
Male	36.5	38.8	32.5	43	27.1	31.8
Diabetes						
Females	9.2	8.7	6.2	7.5	15.1	7.6
Male	11.7	14	12.5	14.5	9.7	10.5

Source: CDC

Sexually-Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV/ AIDS

Females in Southwest Florida have higher rates of sexually-transmitted infections (STIs) than males. In Southwest Florida, 2,211 females were diagnosed with chlamydia in 2010, compared with 916 males diagnosed with the same disease. Except for infectious syphilis, females contract more sexually-transmitted infections than males, as shown in Table 13.

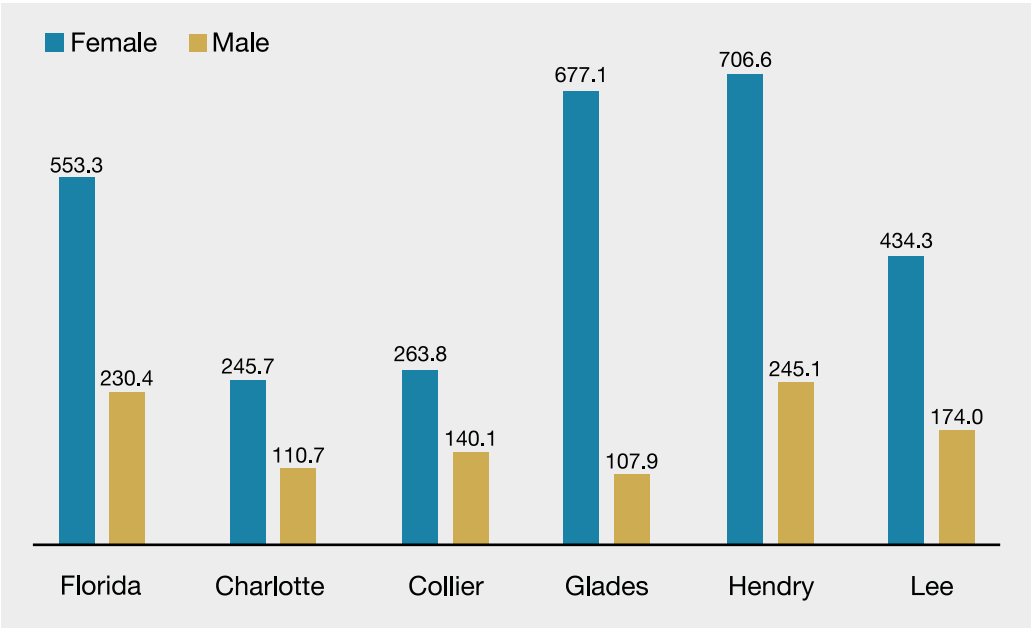
Table 13
Sexually-Transmitted Infection Cases
Reported per 100,000 Population, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Chlamydia count	74,713	304	672	42	197	1,912
Rate/100,000	395.3	181.0	202.4	360.3	460.2	306.5
Female	53,297	215	441	35	141	1,379
Rate/100,000	553.3	245.7	263.8	677.1	706.6	434.3
Male	21,351	89	231	7	56	533
Rate/100,000	230.4	110.7	140.1	107.9	245.1	174.0
Gonorrhea count	20164	32	71	7	27	435
Rate/100,000	106.7	19.1	21.4	60.0	63.1	69.7
Female	10,241	21	38	5	17	218
Rate/100,000	106.3	24	22.7	96.7	85.2	68.7
Male	9906	11	33	2	10	217
Rate/100,000	106.9	13.7	20	30.8	43.8	70.8
Infectious Syphilis	1,184	0	4	0	0	22
Rate/100,000	6.3	0	1.2	0	0	3.5
Female	147	0	0	0	0	5
Rate/100,000	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6
Male	1,037	0	4	0	0	17
Rate/100,000	11.2	0	2.4	0	0	5.5

Source: Florida Department of Health

Females in Southwest Florida are more likely than men to become infected with chlamydia. Chlamydia rates are highest in Glades and Hendry Counties, as shown in Figure 3 and Table 14.

Figure 3
Chlamydia Rates per 100,000 Population by Gender, 2010



Source: Florida Department of Health

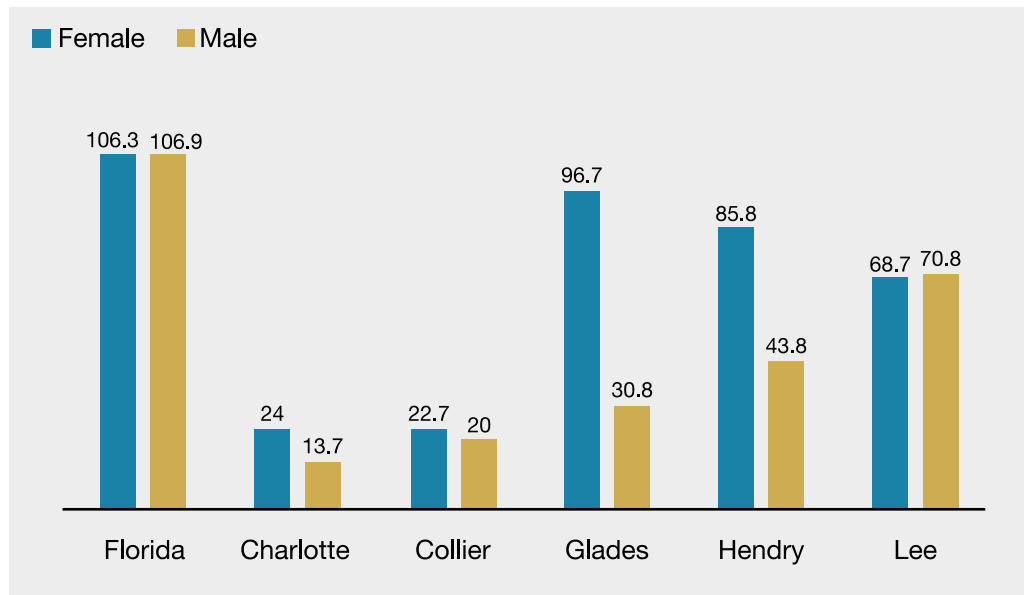
Table 14
Chlamydia Rates per 100,000 Population, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female	553.3	245.7	263.8	677.1	706.6	434.3
Male	230.4	110.7	140.1	107.9	245.1	174.0

Source: Florida Department of Health

Southwest Florida women have higher incidences of gonorrhea than men. Table 15 and Figure 4 show that in 2010, there were a total of 273 cases of gonorrhea reported for males, but a higher number of cases were reported for females at 299. In all Southwest Florida counties, with the exception of Lee County, the incidence of gonorrhea for females was higher than it was for males. Gonorrhea rates in Glades County were much higher than rates in other Southwest Florida counties, but not as high as rates for the State of Florida.

Figure 4
Gonorrhea Rates per 100,000 Population by Gender, 2010



Source: Florida Department of Health

Table 15
Gonorrhea Rates per 100,000 Population, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female	106.3	24	22.7	96.7	85.2	68.7
Male	106.9	13.7	20	30.8	43.8	70.8

Source: Florida Department of Health

HIV and AIDS

Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is the virus that causes AIDS. AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) is the disease caused by HIV infection. It may take up to 10 years or more for an HIV infection to progress to AIDS.

HIV diagnosed cases 1997–2011. From 1997 and through 2011, over 300 women contracted HIV, and from 1981 through 2011, over 700 women were reported to have AIDS in Southwest Florida. Table 16 provides information on HIV infections and Table 17 provides information on AIDS for each Southwest Florida County except for Collier. According to the Lee County Health Department, from 1981 through the end of 2011, 745 females and 1,805 males reported having been diagnosed with AIDS in Southwest Florida. Glades County exhibited the highest percentage of AIDS infected females among all Southwest Florida counties with 37% of the AIDS-infected population. Statewide, females comprise 26% of the AIDS-infected population.

According to the Florida Division of Disease Control's Bureau of HIV/AIDS and the Florida Department of Health, "Women are most likely to be infected through heterosexual sex, followed by intravenous drug use. Through 2009, a total of 28,878 women in Florida were living with HIV/AIDS of those, 13,842 (48%) were women of childbearing age (25–44). Through 2008, 1 in 296 women (ages 13 and over) in Florida were living with HIV/AIDS, including 1 in 64 Blacks, 1 in 445 Hispanics, 1 in 1,153 Whites and 1 in 466 other race." HIV/AIDS is a major health issue for Black women in Florida and nationwide.

Table 16
HIV Diagnosed Cases, 1997–2011

	Florida		Charlotte County		Glades County		Hendry County		Lee County	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	33,109	69%	62	72%	8	62%	22	51%	506	64%
Female	14,586	31%	24	28%	5	38%	21	49%	284	36%
White	14,142	30%	56	65%	1	8%	13	30%	361	46%
Black	22,967	48%	20	23%	7	54%	17	40%	296	37%
Hispanic	9,785	21%	10	12%	5	38%	10	23%	123	16%
Other	801	1%	0	0%	0	0%	3	7%	10	1%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Source: Lee County Health Department

Table 17
AIDS Diagnosed Cases, 1981–2011

	Florida		Charlotte County		Glades County		Hendry County		Lee County	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	91,623	74%	189	76%	19	63%	113	65%	1,484	71%
Female	32,446	26%	61	24%	11	37%	62	35%	611	29%
White	39,959	32%	179	72%	4	13%	25	14%	847	40%
Black	61,025	49%	47	19%	23	77%	108	62%	994	47%
Hispanic	20,836	17%	19	8%	3	10%	39	22%	232	11%
Other	2,249	2%	5	2%	0	0%	3	2%	22	1%
Unknown	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

Source: Lee County Health Department

AIDS reported deaths in Southwest Florida. Twenty-eight deaths were reported in Southwest Florida in 2010 due to AIDS. Hendry County reported the highest HIV/AIDS age-adjusted death rates in 2010, 7 females and 13.1 males; compared with 3.6 females and 7.5 males at the state level, as shown in Table 18. Table 19 shows the number of HIV/AIDS deaths in Florida were 1,066 with 60% or 646 deaths affecting the Black population. The number of women dying as a result of HIV/AIDS was 338 overall for the State of Florida, which was considerably lower than the number of men, at 728 deaths.

Table 18
HIV/AIDS Age-Adjusted Death Rate, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total count	1,066	4	6	0	3	15
Rate	5.5	1.9	1.7	0.0	10.1	2.6
Female count	338	3	0	0	1	4
Rate	3.6	2.4	0.0	0.0	7.0	2.0
Male count	728	1	6	0	2	11
Rate	7.5	1.3	3.4	0	13.1	3.4

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Table 19
**HIV/AIDS Disease Deaths by Race/
 Ethnicity, All Ages, 2010**

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total	1,066	4	6	0	3	15
White	405	2	5	0	0	3
Black	646	1	1	0	3	12
Other	15	1	0	0	0	0
Hispanic	122	1	3	0	0	1
Non-Hispanic	932	3	3	0	3	14
Female	338	1	0	0	1	4
Male	728	3	6	0	2	11

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Mental Health

A slightly higher percentage of females than males use mental health and/or substance abuse services in Southwest Florida.

From 2001 to 2008, 1.94% of females and 1.82% of males used mental health and/or substance abuse services. Hendry County displayed the highest rate for both females and males seeking assistance for mental health and/or substance abuse among the other Southwest Florida counties, as shown in Table 20.

Table 20
Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse
Service Utilization by Gender, 2001-2008

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female	2.34	1.99	1.34	1.39	3.52	1.47
Male	2.26	1.58	1.54	1.39	3.14	1.47

Source: Florida Mental Health

Male youths are more likely to use illicit drugs and tobacco, but less likely to use alcohol versus their female counterparts.

Table 21 shows Charlotte and Lee Counties had the highest illicit drug use for boys and girls, while girls had the highest alcohol and tobacco use in Glades and Hendry Counties. Information on the occurrence of substance abuse is provided in Table 22, which shows self-reported usage when questioned whether or not substances were used in the last 30 days.

Table 21
Percentage of Youth Who Reported Having
Used Various Drugs in Their Lifetimes

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Any illicit drug						
Females	32.7%	32.0%	31.6%	29.9%	28.2%	31.9%
Males	33.2%	37.9%	32.5%	28.8%	29.0%	34.3%
Alcohol						
Females	53.0%	48.1%	53.3%	56.3%	59.3%	52.6%
Males	50.2%	51.1%	51.0%	54.4%	45.1%	53.9%
Tobacco						
Females	25.4%	27.4%	26.6%	33.9%	35.0%	23.4%
Males	26.5%	36.4%	30.5%	37.9%	29.0%	28.3%

Source: Florida Department of Children & Families

Table 22
Percentage of Youth Who Reported Having Used
Various Drugs in the Past 30 Days, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Any illicit drug						
Females	17.3%	17.4%	15.9%	10.6%	15.8%	18.1%
Males	18.6%	25.5%	16.0%	17.6%	15.6%	20.0%
Alcohol						
Females	29.4%	23.2%	29.1%	21.2%	33.9%	26.1%
Males	28.3%	31.4%	30.5%	35.6%	21.6%	27.8%
Tobacco						
Females	8.1%	10.9%	7.4%	3.3%	9.3%	7.2%
Males	9.5%	17.0%	9.1%	7.0%	7.2%	11.0%
Binge drinking						
Females	13.0%	11.4%	13.1%	13.1%	14.3%	11.1%
Males	15.2%	19.2%	19.0%	20.2%	12.1%	13.2%

Source: Florida Department of Children & Families

Wellness Activities

Indicators for women's personal health and wellness in Southwest Florida and statewide. Table 23 shows the percentage of women who received mammograms and Pap smears within one year of 2010. The percentage of women ages 40 and older that received a mammogram within one year of 2010 was relatively low, varying from 48.6% in Glades County to 69.3% in Collier County. Similarly, women ages 18 and older that received a Pap smear during the same period varied from 49.6% in Hendry County to 68.0% in Glades County. Women who underwent a clinical breast examination within one year of 2010 varied from 51.3% in Hendry County to 68.3% in Glades County. Table 24 shows the percentage of women who received mammograms and Pap smears within 2 to 3 years of 2010. In Lee County, 73.7% of women ages 40 and older reported having a mammogram within the past two years of 2010, and 84.0% of women ages 18 and older reported having a Pap smear within the past three years. Women ages 50 and older reported having the highest number of mammograms within the past two years of 2010 at 81.5%.

Table 23

Women Who Received Mammograms and Pap Smears, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Women 40+ who had a mammogram within the past year	61.9%	53.6%	69.3%	48.6%	49.1%	62.9%
Women 18+ who had a Pap smear within the past year	57.1%	52.6%	64.8%	68.0%	49.6%	52.6%
Women 18+ who had a clinical breast exam in the past year	61.5%	59.9%	54.1%	68.3%	51.3%	61.3%

Source: CDC/BRFSS-SMART

Table 24

Lee County Women Who Received Mammograms and Pap Smears, 2010

	Cape Coral-Fort Myers (MSA)
Women over 40 who had a mammogram within the past 2 years	73.7%
Women over 18 who had a Pap smear within the past 3 years	84.0%
Women over 50 who have had a mammogram within the past two years	81.5%

Source: CDC/BRFSS-SMART

General indicators for healthy lifestyle choices and wellness for women versus men. Table 25 shows general health indicators for women in terms of lifestyle, whereas Table 26 shows the same indicators for men. When compared, the tables reveal general lifestyle indicators such as binge drinking, smoking, and obesity rates for women versus men. For the State of Florida, women and men were rated relatively similar in overall health status with 82.3% of women reported to be in good to excellent health, and 83.5% of men reported to be in good to excellent health. However, in Glades County women had the lowest percentage of good to excellent health with only 62.4%, but in Charlotte County the percentage was higher than state levels at 85.5%.

Women in Southwest Florida are less likely than men to engage in heavy or binge drinking. Reflecting state figures, more men in Southwest Florida report heavy or binge drinking than women, as shown when comparing Tables 25 and 26. However among all Southwest Florida counties, Collier County reported the highest rate of female heavy or binge drinking at 16.1%.

Women in Southwest Florida are generally less likely to smoke than men, but experience higher rates of diabetes and elevated cholesterol. In 2010, women were generally less likely to smoke than men, however, Lee County had a high percentage of women who smoked at 24.6%. The percentage of women diagnosed with diabetes was also high and ranged from 6.2% in Collier County to 15.1% in Hendry County. Elevated cholesterol was also a concern for women, which ranged from 36.2% in Hendry County to 44.2% in Charlotte County.

A high percentage of women in Southwest Florida are considered overweight or obese. However, in 2010 more men were considered overweight or obese when compared with women. The percentage of women identified as obese varied from 46.7% in Collier County to 69.2% in Glades County. Obesity is identified as an individual with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or higher.

Table 25
Indicators of Healthy Lifestyles and Wellness, Females, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Heavy or binge drinking	10.5%	10.0%	16.1%	6.8%	5.7%	14.1%
Current smokers	16.0%	16.2%	9.9%	10.8%	19.9%	24.6%
Percentage diagnosed with diabetes	9.2%	8.7%	6.2%	7.5%	15.1%	7.6%
Percentage diagnosed with high blood cholesterol	37.5%	44.2%	41.6%	40.1%	36.2%	44.0%
Percentage overweight or obese	56.5%	50.7%	46.7%	69.2%	65.5%	48.0%
Percentage with good to excellent overall health	82.3%	85.5%	83.3%	62.4%	68.6%	82.2%
Percentage with good physical health	86.5%	85.8%	90.2%	87.0%	78.6%	82.2%
Percentage who drove a vehicle while intoxicated (in past 30 days)	0.8%	—	1.1%	—	0.1%	0.5%

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Risk Factor Surveillance System

Table 26
Indicators of Healthy Lifestyles and Wellness, Males, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Heavy or binge drinking	19.8%	15.0%	22.2%	24.0%	17.6%	22.3%
Current smokers	18.4%	25.7%	23.3%	18.5%	22.9%	26.4%
Percentage diagnosed with diabetes	11.7%	14.0%	12.5%	14.5%	9.7%	10.5%
Percentage diagnosed with high blood cholesterol	39.7%	42.6%	41.2%	39.0%	35.6%	46.1%
Percentage overweight or obese	73.6%	61.1%	68.2%	79.1%	78.2%	74.1%
Percentage with good to excellent overall health	83.5%	71.1%	79.0%	74.2%	73.6%	84.8%
Percentage with good physical health	88.4%	83.0%	87.7%	79.9%	89.3%	88.8%
Percentage who drove a vehicle while intoxicated (in past 30 days)	3.0%	0.6%	1.0%	5.0%	2.6%	5.0%

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Risk Factor Surveillance System

Key health risks for the nation, the State of Florida, and Lee County. Table 27 reports that 17.1% of Lee County adults were considered to be in fair or poor health in 2010. Of those individuals, 27.9% reported no exercise within 30 days prior to the survey. The percentage of smokers in Lee County was higher than the national rate by 9.8%, and the state rate by 10%. Binge drinking and obesity rates are somewhat similar for all three categories, with a range of 13.7% to 19.1% for binge drinking, and 25.8% to 27.5% for obesity.

Table 27

Percentage of U.S. and Florida Adults Reporting Selected Health Risks, 2010

	Nation	Florida	Lee County
Health status (fair or poor)	14.7%	17.1%	16.5%
No exercise in past 30 days	23.9%	24%	27.9%
Diabetes	8.7%	10.4%	8.4%
No flu vaccination (65 years and older)	32.5%	34.4%	27.3%
Currently smoking	17.3%	17.1%	27.1%
Binge drinking	15.1%	13.7%	19.1%
Obesity (BMI of 30 or greater)	27.5%	27.2%	25.8%

Source: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, BRFSS, 2010

Reproductive Health

Women in Southwest Florida gave birth to 11,351 children in 2010. Hispanic women had the highest fertility rates ranging from 10.1% in Hendry County to 17.9% in Collier County. Black women also had high fertility rates that ranged from 9.5% in Charlotte County to 18.7% in Collier County. White women had the highest total number of births at 9,483 for all five counties combined, as indicated by Table 28.

Table 28

Births and Fertility Rate per 1,000 by Race and Ethnicity by County of Residence (Mother), 2010

	Charlotte County		Collier County		Glades County		Hendry County		Lee County	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
Total	1,012	6.1	3,339	10.0	75	6.6	609	14.9	6,316	10.2
White	876	5.8	2,850	9.3	56	6.0	519	14.9	5,182	9.3
Black and other	134	9.5	488	18.7	19	9.4	89	14.6	1,130	18.4
Ethnicity										
Hispanic	83	11.0	1,540	17.9	22	10.1	316	15.8	1,829	16.4
Non-Hispanic/Haitian	928	5.9	1,778	7.2	52	5.7	265	12.6	4,397	8.7
Unknown	1	–	21	–	1	–	28	–	90	–

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Women ages 25 to 29 are responsible for the greatest number of births in Southwest Florida.

In 2010, 3,281 infants were born to women ages 25–29, and 3,013 infants were born to women ages 20–24, as shown in Table 29.

Table 29

Births and Fertility Rate per 1,000 by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Charlotte County		Collier County		Glades County		Hendry County		Lee County	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
Total	1,012	11.7	3,339	19.9	75	14.9	609	31.9	6,316	20.1
0–14	0	0	3	0.1	0	0	5	1.0	11	0.2
15–17	27	11.2	87	15.3	0	0	35	36.6	161	16.3
18–19	81	62.3	177	57.7	9	73.8	61	107.8	379	62.8
20–24	322	101	818	102	27	92.8	213	125.3	1,633	108
25–29	281	94.9	920	112	23	80.1	155	95.8	1,902	125
30–34	191	65.9	777	99.5	10	43.3	85	65.7	1,402	95.3
35–39	91	26.3	427	51.4	5	19.8	46	37.2	637	40.2
40–44	19	4.7	125	13.7	1	3.5	9	8.2	179	10.5
45+	0	50	5	0.1	0	0	0	71.3	10	0.1
Unknown	0	–	0	–	0	–	0	–	2	–

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Young women ages 18 and under accounted for over 300 births in 2010. Lee County accounted for 52.3% of Southwest Florida births to girls ages 18 and under, as shown in Table 30. The highest fertility rate in Lee County for this age group was for Black girls at 38.9% and followed by Hispanic girls at 20.2%. Overall, Hendry County reported the highest fertility rate for this age group.

Table 30

Births and Fertility Rates per 1,000 Teenage Girls by Race/Ethnicity, 2010

	Charlotte County		Collier County		Glades County		Hendry County		Lee County	
	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate	Count	Rate
Girls under age 15	0	0	3	0.1	0	0	5	1.0	11	0.2
White	0	0	2	0.1	0	0	4	1.0	6	0.1
Black	0	0	1	0.3	0	0	1	1.3	5	0.6
Hispanic	0	0	2	0.2	0	0	3	1.1	3	0.2
Non-Hispanic	0	0	1	0.1	0	0	2	1.0	8	0.2
Unknown	0	0	0	–	0	0	0	–	0	–
Girls ages 15–17	27	11.2	87	15.3	0	0	35	36.6	161	16.3
White	23	11.2	71	14.1	0	0	28	35.0	102	12.2
Black	4	11.4	16	24.8	0	0	7	44.6	59	38.9
Hispanic	4	32.5	54	26.4	0	0	19	37.5	49	20.2
Non-Hispanic	23	10.1	32	8.8	0	0	14	31.0	106	14.2
Unknown	0	–	1	–	0	0	2	–	6	–

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Maternal Health and Infant Mortality

While most women in Southwest Florida received prenatal care during their first trimester of pregnancy from 2008–2010, nearly one in three did not. Collier County had the lowest prenatal care rate at 64.3% while Charlotte County had the highest rate at 74.4%. The prenatal care rate for Southwest Florida was below the rate for the State of Florida of 78.1%. No data exists to determine the age or racial/ethnic background of females seeking prenatal care in Southwest Florida. See Table 31.

Table 31
Births With 1st Trimesters Prenatal Care, 2008–2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Count	153,962	766	2,139	57	393	4,481
Percent	78.1%	74.4%	64.3%	73.9%	66.3%	74.1%

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Maternal health indicators show county differences for birth weights, unmarried pregnancies, and repeat births to teens. Based on a percentage of the population, Glades County had the highest percentage of low birth weight infants at 14.7%. The percentage of mothers not married varied from 46% in Collier County to 63% in Hendry County. Repeat births to teens ranged from 17% in Lee County to 23% in Charlotte County, as shown in Table 32.

Table 32
Maternal Health Indicators, 2008–2010

	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Low birth weight infants	87	255	11	42	495
Percent	8.6%	7.6%	14.7%	6.9%	7.8%
Late or no prenatal care	67	233	4	36	299
Percent	7.0%	7.5%	6.1%	6.6%	5.1%
Mother not married	521	1,543	41	382	3,078
Percent	51.5%	46.2%	54.7%	62.7%	48.7%
Repeat births to teens	25	60	2	19	95
Percent	23.1%	22.5%	22.2%	18.8%	17.2%

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

The rate at which new mothers reported smoking during pregnancy is higher than the rate for Florida for many counties in Southwest Florida. Table 33 shows the percentage new mothers who smoked during pregnancy to vary across all five counties and was highest in Charlotte County, where one out of seven new mothers reported smoking. In addition, Glades and Lee Counties showed higher percentages of new mothers who smoked than the state average of 6.9%. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “women who smoke during pregnancy can cause a baby to be born too early or to have low birth weight and are more likely than other women to have a miscarriage.”

Table 33
Births to New Mothers Who Report
Smoking During Pregnancy, 2008–2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Count	15,250	162	138	8	43	584
Percent	6.9%	15.1%	3.9%	9.2%	6.5%	8.8%

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Infant mortality in Southwest Florida is highest among the Black population. As indicated by Table 34, the infant mortality rate for the Black population in Lee County was 8.8 per 1,000 live births, almost twice the rate for Whites at 3.3 per 1,000 live births. The state's infant mortality rate for Black mothers was reported at 10.8 per 1,000 live births. Glades and Collier Counties had the highest rates of infant deaths per 1,000 live births among all Southwest Florida counties during 2010.

Table 34
Infant Deaths per 1,000 Live Births by
Race/Ethnicity of Mother, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Total Population count	1,400	5	20	2	0	27
Rate	6.5	4.9	6.0	26.7	0.0	4.3
White count	750	3	14	1	0	17
Rate	4.9	3.4	4.9	17.9	0.0	3.3
Black & Other count	649	2	6	1	0	10
Rate	10.8	14.9	12.3	52.6	0.0	8.8
Hispanic count	307	0	5	0	0	11
Rate	5.1	0.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	6.0
Non-Hispanic count	1,074	5	15	2	0	16
Rate	7.0	5.4	8.4	38.5	0.0	3.6

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Death rates for female infants are lower than for male infants in the State of Florida. The number of male infant deaths surpassed female infant deaths in the State of Florida by 560 births. The death rates for infants by county tend to be unreliable due to small counts, however the data indicate that there were fewer female infant deaths in Collier and Lee Counties, but a slightly higher infant death rate for females in Charlotte County, as shown in Table 35.

Table 35

Crude Death Rates for Infants (Ages 0–1) 3 Year Rolling Rates by Gender per 100,000 Population, 2008–2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female count	2,192	11	35	1	6	55
Rate	332.3	326.8	317.2	338.1	284.3	268.4
Male count	2,752	10	41	1	4	61
Rate	400.9	285.9	360.4	326.8	182.5	285.5

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

Contraception and Abortion

Women in Florida are in need of effective contraceptive services and supplies. According to a study conducted by the Alan Guttmacher Institute, over half of all women (1,941,120) of reproductive age (13–44) are in need of contraceptive services and supplies. The majority of Florida women requiring contraceptive services and supplies are under age 20. Nationwide, the majority of women in need of contraceptive services and supplies (30,904,120) range in age from 20 to 44, as shown in Table 36. Information for Southwest Florida counties is currently not available.

Table 36

Women in Need of Contraceptive Services and Supplies, by Age, 2008

	U.S.	Florida
Total Population (ages 13–44)	65,917,200	3,683,850
Total in need	35,951,170	1,941,120
Under 20	5,047,030	2,711,540
20–44	30,904,120	1,669,580

Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute

Women in Florida are in need of publicly-supported contraceptive services and supplies. There are 971,630 Floridian women in need of publicly-supported contraceptive services and supplies, according to the Alan Guttmacher Institute. Of those, 451,880 live below the 250% poverty level and 271,540 are under age 20. See Table 37.

Table 37

Women Ages 13–44 in Need of Publicly Supported Contraceptive Services and Supplies, 2008

	U.S.	Florida
Total Population (ages 13–44)	65,917,200	3,683,850
Total in need	17,428,270	971,630
Under 20	5,047,030	271,540
Below 250% poverty	12,381,240	451,880
Number of female contraceptive clients served at all publicly funded clinics	7,105,670	315,440

Source: Alan Guttmacher Institute

Florida ranks number two on the list of states with the most abortions in the country. Out of the 47 states that reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Florida's 2008 abortion total places it at number two on the list of the states or districts with the most abortions. During 2008, there were a total of 86,817 reported abortions performed in Florida, and 2,512 in Lee County, as shown in Table 38. According to the Alan Guttmacher Institute, 18% of U.S. women who obtained abortions were teenagers; of those, 6% were ages 15–17, 11% were ages 18–19, and 0.4% were ages 15 and under .

Table 38

Reported Abortions by County of Occurrence, 2008

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Lee County
Count	86,817	224	2	2,512
Rate (abortions per 1,000 women 15–44)	25.0	–	–	–
Ratio (abortions per 1,000 live births)	375	–	–	–

Source: CDC

A large percentage of disabled women have incomes below the poverty level. In 2007, almost 1,000 girls between the ages of 5 and 15 years, living below the poverty level with a disability, resided in Southwest Florida (excluding Glades County), as shown in Table 39. There were 213 girls between the ages of 16 and 20 years, living below the poverty level with a disability, residing in the area (excluding Glades County). Women age 65 and older living below the poverty level with a disability accounted for 4,232 of the female population (excluding Glades County).

Table 39
Poverty Status for Female Population with
Disability Age Five and Over, 2007

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Hendry County	Lee County
Females with disability					
5–15 years	51,517	702	602	198	1,544
Number below poverty	14,030	175	116	122	550
Percent below poverty	27.2%	24.9%	19.3%	61.6%	35.6%
16–20 years	29,138	277	188	54	346
Number below poverty	8,713	87	30	18	78
Percent below poverty	29.9%	31.4%	16.0%	33.3%	22.5%
21–64 years	665,870	5901	7,493	1,685	16,587
Number below poverty	171,102	1205	1,460	428	3,553
Percent below poverty	25.7%	20.4%	19.5%	25.4%	21.4%
65 years and over	652,663	7896	11,014	1,015	21,195
Number below poverty	99,754	675	995	93	2,469
Percent below poverty	15.3%	8.5%	9.0%	9.2%	11.6%

Source: U.S. Census, 2005–2007, 3-year estimates

A large percentage of disabled men have incomes below the poverty level. In 2007, more than 900 boys between the ages of 5 and 15 years, living below the poverty level with a disability, resided in Southwest Florida (excluding Glades County), as shown in Table 40. There were 192 boys between the ages of 16 and 20 years, living below the poverty level with a disability, residing in the area (excluding Glades County, no data for Collier and Hendry Counties). Men age 65 and older living below the poverty level with a disability accounted for 1,908 of the population (without Glades County).

Table 40
Poverty Status for Male Population with
Disability Age Five and Over, 2007

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Hendry County	Lee County
Males with disability					
5–15 years	91,564	762	640	62	3,030
Number below poverty	22,499	189	116	20	605
Percent below poverty	24.6%	24.8%	18.1%	32.3%	20.0%
16–20 years	41,667	249	336	111	1,001
Number below poverty	10,251	47	–	–	145
Percent below poverty	24.6%	18.9%	0.0%	0.0%	14.5%
21–64 years	624,089	5,787	7,075	1,427	14,894
Number below poverty	127,767	711	1,006	643	1,970
Percent below poverty	20.5%	12.3%	14.2%	45.1%	13.2%
65 years and over	652,663	8,204	8,986	1,046	18,294
Number below poverty	99,754	471	364	35	1,038
Percent below poverty	15.3%	5.7%	4.1%	3.3%	5.7%

Source: U.S. Census, 2005–2007, 3-year estimates

Access to Health Care and Health Insurance

Medicaid covers one-half of the births in Southwest Florida. From 2008–2010, Medicaid covered a total of 5,393 or 50.3% of births in Southwest Florida. Hendry and Charlotte Counties had the highest rates of births covered by Medicaid, as shown in Table 41.

Table 41
Births Covered by Medicaid, 2008–2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Count	104,077	611	1,223	44	395	3,120
Rate	46.8	56.9	34.6	53.2	60.1	46.7

Source: Florida Department of Health, Florida Charts

More women than men are eligible for Medicaid in Southwest Florida. Women accounted for 15.1% of the population eligible for Medicaid from 2008–2010, whereas men accounted for only 13.4%, as shown in Table 42. Medicaid Eligibility was highest in Hendry County for ages 0 to 17 years old. Generally, the percentage of women and girls eligible for Medicaid was between 10% and 15% of the population. Hendry County showed 22.6% of the female population eligible for Medicaid. A much higher percentage of boys and girls were eligible for Medicaid when compared with the total population. No data was available for Glades County.

Table 42
Medicaid Eligibility by Age, 2008–2010

	US	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female population, all ages	154,474,434	9,472,357	81,240	160,707	17,675	311,173
Females eligible for Medicaid all ages	26,682,577	1,427,723	10,286	17,619	3,996	40,482
Percent of female population all ages	17.3%	15.1%	12.7%	11.0%	22.6%	13.0%
Male population all ages	147,027,388	8,885,465	76,537	157,090	19,447	299,785
Males eligible for Medicaid all ages	21,858,518	1,190,595	9,117	16,296	4,577	34,616
Percent of Male Population all ages	14.9%	13.4%	11.9%	10.4%	23.5%	11.5%
Female population 0–17 years old	36,163,485	1,954,644	10,959	30,080	5,027	59,267
Females eligible for Medicaid 0–17 years old	11,873,143	621,153	3,549	8,522	2,355	18,728
Percent of Female population 0–17 years old	32.8%	31.8%	32.4%	28.3%	46.8%	31.6%
Male population 0–17 years old	37,818,433	2,041,075	12,350	32,585	5,863	62,148
Males eligible for Medicaid 0–17 years old	12,394,611	655,492	4,529	8,843	3,634	19,815
Percent of Male population 0–17 years old	32.8%	32.1%	36.7%	27.1%	62.0%	31.9%
Female population 18–64 Years Old	96,645,773	5,779,958	42,511	87,734	10,670	179,202
Females eligible for Medicaid 18–64 years old	11,189,292	533,176	4,176	4,850	1,318	14,190
Percent of female population 18–64 years old	11.6%	9.2%	9.8%	5.5%	12.4%	7.9%
Male population 18–64 years old	92,594,215	5,442,542	38,987	85,355	11,191	171,515
Males eligible for Medicaid 18–64 years old	7,226,546	358,436	2,878	3,809	614	9,302
Percent of male population 18–64 years old	7.8%	6.6%	7.4%	4.5%	5.5%	5.4%
Female population 65 and over	21,665,176	1,737,755	27,770	42,893	1,978	72,704
Females eligible for Medicaid 65 and over	3,620,142	273,394	2,561	4,247	323	7,564
Percent of female Population 65 and over	16.7%	15.7%	9.2%	9.9%	16.3%	10.4%
Male population 65 and Older	16,614,690	1,401,848	25,200	39,150	2,393	66,122
Males eligible for Medicaid 65 and over	2,237,361	176,667	1,710	3,644	329	5,499
Percent of male Population 65 and over	13.5%	12.6%	6.8%	9.3%	13.7%	8.3%

Source: American Community Survey, 2008–2010, 3-year estimates

Violence and Crime

In Southwest Florida, approximately one-half of the victims of child abuse and neglect are girls.

A total of 11,613 cases of child abuse and neglect were investigated during 2008–2009 in Southwest Florida, including 5,785 females, as shown in Table 43.

Table 43

**Alleged Victims Child Abuse and Neglect Who Were
Subjects of Investigation (unduplicated counts), 2008–2009**

	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Female	742	1,204	59	278	3,502
Male	684	1,280	60	242	3,511
Unknown	4	14	0	3	30
Totals	1,430	2,498	119	523	7,043

Source: Florida Office of Adoption and Child Protection,
Florida Child Abuse Prevention & Permanency Plan

More children are maltreated in Glades and Hendry Counties than in other Southwest Florida

counties. In 2008, Glades and Hendry Counties had the highest child maltreatment rates of 11.8% and 10.6%, respectively, as shown in Tables 44 and 45. Charlotte County reported a child maltreatment rate of 7.4%, whereas the rate for Collier County was 6.4%, and 8.4% for Lee County. The highest reported Child maltreatment category was substance misuse, followed by threatened harm, and family violence that threatens the child.

Table 44
Maltreatment Report Analysis for Charlotte,
Collier, and Glades Counties, 2008

	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County
Substance misuse (alleged)	818	954	55
Verified	88	165	8
Percent verified	10.8%	17.3%	14.6%
Threatened harm (alleged)	575	764	38
Verified	33	145	7
Percent verified (alleged)	5.7%	19.0%	18.4%
Family Violence threatens child (alleged)	375	809	40
Verified	65	129	12
Percent verified	17.3%	16.0%	30.0%
Inadequate supervision (alleged)	505	710	31
Verified	56	86	4
Percent verified	11.1%	12.1%	12.9%
Environmental hazards (alleged)	450	408	33
Verified	27	32	0
Percent verified	6.0%	7.8%	0.0%
Physical injury (alleged)	323	483	25
Verified	21	35	0
Percent verified	6.5%	7.3%	0.0%
Sexual abuse (alleged)	107	169	15
Verified	10	33	6
Percent verified	9.4%	19.5%	40.0%
Failure to protect (alleged)	28	66	0
Verified	11	27	0
Percent verified	39.3%	40.9%	0.0%
Maltreatment rate	7.4%	6.4%	11.8%

Source: Florida Office of Adoption and Child Protection,
 Florida Child Abuse Prevention & Permanency Plan

Table 45

Maltreatment Report Analysis for Hendry and Lee Counties, 2008

	Hendry County			Lee County		
	Alleged	Verified	Percent Verified	Alleged	Verified	Percent Verified
Substance misuse	190	25	13.2%	3,423	411	12.0%
Threatened harm	161	10	6.2%	2,417	290	12.0%
Family violence threatens child	151	48	31.8%	2,249	306	13.6%
Inadequate supervision	154	13	8.4%	2,035	190	9.3%
Environmental hazards	139	8	5.8%	1,556	101	6.5%
Physical injury	83	9	10.8%	1,346	121	9.0%
Sexual abuse	39	16	41.0%	481	80	16.6%
Failure to protect	8	0	0.0%	147	50	34.0%
Maltreatment rate	10.6%			8.4%		

Source: Florida Office of Adoption & Child Protection,
Florida Child Abuse Prevention & Permanency Plan

Human trafficking is major concern both nationally and locally. In Southwest Florida, human trafficking statistics are difficult to obtain as victims may be missclassified as underage prostitutes and prosecuted under the state's sex laws. The Catholic Charities of Lee, Hendry, and Glades Counties, in partnership with the Lee County Sheriff's Department and Florida Gulf Coast University, have assisted victims of labor or sexual trafficking. Little local data was available, but the Catholic Charities reported at least four sex cases and six labor cases from July to December of 2011. They also reported that there may be as many as seven more cases pending classification in human trafficking.

Domestic Violence

Women and children are the victims in most domestic violence incidents reported to the Department of Children and Families. Of the total 1,180 cases of domestic violence that required a residential admission during fiscal year 2010–2011, 50.9% or 601 were female and 48.6% were children. Of the 3,342 cases that did not require a residential admission, 78.0% were female and 14.2% were children, as shown in Table 46. In Florida, a total of 15,789 victims of domestic violence were admitted into local shelters and over 40,000 victims of domestic violence were provided with abuse counseling and treatment without residential admission. No information regarding race and gender of victims of domestic violence was available for the Southwest Florida region.

Table 46
Domestic Violence Services, Fiscal Year 2010–2011

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Lee, Hendry, & Glades
New admissions (residential)				
Children	7,486	38	293	242
Women	8,225	45	293	263
Men	78	0	5	1
Total	15,789	83	591	506
New admissions (non-residential)				
Children	4,106	31	427	17
Women	32,793	296	920	1,392
Men	3,108	35	33	191
Total	40,007	362	1,380	1,600

Source: State of Florida/Department of Children & Families

Rape

Florida has a higher rate of reported rapes than the U.S. According to the FBI, the State of Florida reported 5,369 forcible rapes in 2010, which accounts for 28.6 forcible rapes per 100,000 Floridians. These are only the rapes that are reported to law enforcement; therefore, obtaining reliable and detailed rape statistics for Southwest Florida counties is extremely difficult. Although the numbers and rates of rape reporting and estimated incidence are publicly available, as shown in Table 47, information regarding the age, gender, and relationship of the victims and their perpetrators is not available.

Table 47
Rape Reporting and Estimated Incidence, 2010

	Florida	Charlotte County	Collier County	Glades County	Hendry County	Lee County
Forcible rape reports	5,369	23	54	4	9	136
Population	18,771,768	166,746	331,405	10,798	40,848	613,546
Crime rate per 100,000	4,104.7	2,746.7	2,039.8	2,630.1	3,990.4	3,021.0
Rate change 2009–2010	–6.7%	–1.7%	–1.7%	19.0%	2.9%	–9.4%

Source: Florida Department of Law Enforcement

Incarceration

Women in Florida are less likely than men to be incarcerated. According to the Florida Department of Corrections, there were 102,232 inmates in Florida prisons during the 2009–2010 fiscal year. Only 7% (7,716) of all inmates in Florida prisons were women. In addition, 37,086 females (24.3%) were on supervision for the commission of a violent offense.

The majority of the Florida female population incarcerated is adult. Table 48 shows that of 99.7% (7,716) of the females in Florida jails are adult, while only .30% are juveniles.

Table 48
2010 Average Jail Population

	Florida			
	Females		Males	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Adults	7,716	99.7%	46,911	98.7%
Juveniles	23	0.3%	625	1.3%
Grand Total	7,739	100.0%	47,536	100.0%

Source: Florida Department of Correction

More to Learn about Health and Well-Being

1. What is the level of human trafficking in Southwest Florida? (At a minimum, case studies or better estimates of the degree of sex or labor trafficking are needed in order to adequately estimate the level of this activity).
2. What is the number and frequency of rape victims in Southwest Florida?
3. How many women and girls in Southwest Florida experience sexual harassment at work, school, home, etc.?
4. How many women and girls in Southwest Florida participate in organized sports?
5. What programs are offered in Southwest Florida to educate women and girls to certain health risks such as heart disease, cancer, or chronic lower respiratory disease?
6. Why does Hendry County have a higher percentage of women with hypertension and diabetes as compared with the other Southwest Florida Counties?
7. How many women and girls in Southwest Florida have HIV/AIDS?
8. What programs are in place to educate women and girls about the risks of sexually-transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS?
9. What can be done to reduce tobacco and alcohol use in Glades and Hendry Counties?
10. How many same-sex partners in Southwest Florida have children?
11. What wellness initiatives and health risk screenings are available to women and girls in Southwest Florida?

Assets to Build on and Opportunities for Change

Death Rates and Causes of Death

Assets

In all age groups, female mortality rates are lower than for males in Southwest Florida (Table 2).

Diabetes impacts about 9.2% of women in Florida compared with 11.7% of men (Table 12).

Black women in Southwest Florida have a lower incidence rate of breast cancer compared to White women (Table 10).

Opportunities

The leading causes of death for Southwest Florida women in 2010 are cancer (1,275), heart disease (1,214), chronic lower respiratory disease (385), and unintentional injuries (222) (Table 6).

Black female age-adjusted death rates were significantly higher than for White females in all counties except Charlotte (Table 2).

Women have higher rates of hypertension than men (Table 12).

Sexually-Transmitted Infections (STIs) and HIV/AIDS

Assets

Women have lower rates of reported infectious syphilis than men (Table 13).

Opportunities

Women generally have a higher rate of sexually-transmitted infections than men (Table 13).

Women have higher infection rates for chlamydia in Glades and Hendry Counties (Figure 3).

Mental Health

Assets

Male youth are more likely than female youth to use illicit drugs and/or tobacco (Table 21).

Lee County female youth had the lowest reported tobacco use during their lifetimes at just 23.4%.

Opportunities

32.0% of Southwest Florida female youth have used illicit drugs and tobacco in their lifetimes (Table 21).

Approximately 50% of female youth have used alcohol during their lifetime (Table 21).

Wellness Activities

Assets

Women in Southwest Florida were slightly less likely than men to engage in heavy or binge drinking (Tables 25 and 26).

Men have higher rates of being overweight or obese than women (Tables 25 and 26).

More men than women currently smoke (Tables 25 and 26).

Opportunities

The percentage of women over 40 who received a mammogram in the past year remains low, varying from 48.6% in Glades County to 69.3% in Collier County (Table 23).

Current women smokers are 9.9% of the Collier County women population and represent as high as 24.6% of the Lee County female population (Table 25).

Diagnosed diabetes for women is high, ranging from 6.2% in Collier County to 15.1% in Hendry County (Table 25).

Women had high levels of cholesterol, ranging from 36.2% in Hendry County to 44.2% in Charlotte County (Table 25).

Reproductive Health

Assets

A majority of women receive prenatal care.

Opportunities

There are high numbers of births to girls under age 18 (Table 30).

Collier County had the lowest prenatal care rate at 64% (Table 31).

Glades County had the highest percentage of low birth weight infants at 15% (Table 32).

Charlotte County had the highest percentage of new mothers who smoked during pregnancy (Table 33).

Disabilities

Opportunities

Almost 1,000 girls between 5 and 15 years have a disability and an income below the poverty level in Southwest Florida (without Glades County) (Table 39).

There were 865 girls between 16 and 20 years with a disability and who were living with income below the poverty level in Southwest Florida (without Glades County) (Table 39).

There were 4,232 women 65 and older below the poverty income level with a disability in Southwest Florida (without Glades County) (Table 39).

Access to Care and Insurance

Opportunities

Medicaid eligibility is highest in Hendry County and for ages 0 to 17 years old (Table 42).

Generally, the percentage of women and girls eligible for Medicaid is between 10% and 15% of the population (Table 42).

Hendry County has 22.6% of the female population eligible for Medicaid. A much higher percentage of boys and girls are eligible for Medicaid than the total population (Table 42).

Violence and Crime

Assets

Women in Florida are less likely than men to be incarcerated. According to the Florida Department of Corrections, there were 102,232 inmates in Florida prisons during the fiscal year of 2009–2010. Only 7% (7,144) of all inmates in Florida prisons were women (Table 48).

Opportunities

A total of 11,613 cases of child abuse and neglect were investigated during 2008–2009 in Southwest Florida, including 5,785 females (Table 43).

A total of 226 forcible rapes were reported in Southwest Florida in 2010 (Table 47).

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